



ACT
Government

Transport Canberra
and City Services

Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Eucalyptus blakelyi* (Ebl)

Common Name: Blakely's red gum

Species Description

- Evergreen
- Tall tree with an open canopy and the trunk making up about half the height of the tree
- Smooth grey-cream bark
- Grey green [lanceolate](#) leaves
- Small woody [ovoid](#) fruit
- White flowers from September to February

Height and width

25 metres tall by 20 metres wide in undisturbed natural landscapes; 20 metres tall by 15 metres wide in urban areas

Species origin

Occurs naturally on tablelands and slopes in NSW and Victoria, also common in the ACT in grassy woodlands

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 70\text{m}^3$
- Suitable only for use in heritage areas, revegetation areas and for re-creating local woodland communities

Use considerations

- Well suited to the local climate, commonly found on flats and lower slopes
- Medium to high frost and drought tolerance
- Grows best on loamy soils and tolerates occasional water-logging
- [Medium longevity](#) due to insect attacks
- Moderate growth rate
- Low flammability due to the smooth bark
- Prone to severe insect attack: requires spraying for insect and scale infestations at least until semi-mature age
- Old specimens often drop large limbs and require annual dead wood removal in high-use areas
- Produces nectar, pollen and seeds which attract bees and insect-eating birds
- Provides wildlife habitat by producing significant hollows in old trees
- Readily coppices and often produces seedlings growing outside the drip line
- Listed as an ecologically beneficial species under the *Tree Protection Act 2005*

Examples in Canberra

Black Mountain Peninsula and the northern end of Limestone Avenue

Availability

Commercially available, however in limited stock

