**Eucalyptus kumarlensis**

**Classification**
Eucalyptus | Symphyomyrtus | Bisectae | Destitutae | Porantherae | Longiores

**Nomenclature**


T: 18 km W of highway on Lake King road (32°41'S, 121°22'E), 12 Feb. 1985, M.I.H.Brooker 8843; holo: PERTH; iso: CANB, MEL, NSW.

**Description**

*Tree* to 10 m tall, but sometimes a *mallee*. Some plants seem to form a lignotuber.

*Bark* smooth throughout, pink to orange and white.

*Branchlets* lacking oil glands in the pith.

*Juvenile growth* (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm): stems rounded in cross-section; juvenile leaves very shortly petiolate, lowest leaves sub-opposite soon becoming alternate, linear, 3–7.5 cm long, 0.3–0.6 cm wide, dull, grey-green until ca 0.5 m tall then glossy, green.

*Adult leaves* alternate, petioles 0.4–1.2 cm long; blade linear to narrowly falcate, 6–11 cm long, 0.4–1 cm wide, base tapering to petiole, margin entire, apex pointed, green, glossy, side-veins at an acute or wider angle to midrib, intramarginal vein present, moderately to densely reticulate or the reticulation obscured by the very numerous, large, intersectional oil glands.

*Inflorescence* axillary unbranched, peduncles narrow, only slightly flattened, 0.4–1 cm long, buds 7 or 9 per umbel, pedicellate (pedicels 0.2–0.4 cm long). *Mature buds* small, ovoid to diamond-shaped (0.6–0.8 cm long, 0.3–0.4 cm wide), scar present, operculum conical to beaked (0.4 cm long), stamens inflexed (rarely 1 or 2 irregularly placed), anthers cuneate-cuboid, adnate to filament apex (rigidly basified), dehiscing by sub-terminal pores, a few of the innermost stamens imperfectly formed, style long and straight or slightly but obviously twisted apically, stigma tapered, locules 3(4), the placentae each with 4 vertical rows of ovules. Flowers creamy white.

*Fruit* pedicellate (pedicels 0.1–0.3 cm long), cupular to obconical or hemispherical, 0.3–0.5 cm long, 0.4–0.5 cm wide, disc level to descending, valves 3(4), rim level to slightly exserted.

*Seeds* brown to grey-brown, 1–2 mm long, flattened-ovoid, dorsal surface usually furrowed longitudinally but otherwise smooth, hilum ventral.

*Cultivated seedlings* (measured at node 10): cotyledons Y-shaped (bisected); stems rounded in cross-section, very warty; leaves sessile throughout, opposite for 7 to 23 nodes, becoming subopposite then alternate, linear-oblong, incurved, 1.5–3 cm long, 0.3–0.8 cm wide, the margins minutely denticulate due to warts, discolorous, mid to dark green above. The seedlings are conspicuously warty.

**Flowering Time**

Flowering has been recorded in February.

**Notes**

*Eucalyptus kumarlensis* is a small tree or mallee endemic to Western Australia, restricted to a small area north of Esperance, around and west of the railway siding of Kumart, north to Lake Dundas. It occurs on calcareous red sandy loam often with *E. pollita*, *E. eremophila*, *E. spreata*, and *E. diptera*. *Eucalyptus kumarlensis* has smooth bark which is pink to orange and white. The adult leaves are glossy green and narrow.

*Eucalyptus kumarlensis* belongs in *Eucalyptus* subgenus *Symphyomyrtus* section *Bisectae* subsection *Destitutae* because the buds have two opercula, cotyledons are Y-shaped and branchlets lack oil glands in the pith. Within this subsection *E. kumarlensis* is one of a group of about 16 species, series *Porantherae*, that are further characterised by having anthers completely adnate to the staminal filaments, strongly inflexed stamens, densely reticulate leaves with intersectional oil glands and by the fruit with a distinct thick rim that includes a whitish descending disc. The small, glossy leaves of species in series *Porantherae* may result in confusion with species in series *Heterostemones*; however, the fruit alone usually distinguish the series. The fruit of series *Heterostemones* are thin-rimmed.
It is distinguished from other species in series Porantherae by the tree habit, coppery bark in season, conspicuously warty seedlings with linear-oblong leaves with warty-denticulate margins, linear to narrow-oblong juvenile leaves dull grey-green at first becoming green, and obconical fruit. It is probably closest to *E. olivina* from east of Hyden, which differs by the consistently mallee habit, greyish juvenile leaves and olive-green, slightly crenulate adult leaves. In the bark and habit *E. kumarlensis* can resemble the unrelated gimlet *E. diptera*, a species noted for its three-budded inflorescences and branchlets with copious pith glands.

**Origin of Name**

*Eucalyptus kumarlensis*: referring to the railway siding of Kumal, south of Norseman on the Esperance line, Western Australia.