



Eucalypts of the SOUTHERN TABLELANDS ECOSYSTEMS PARK

FOREST 20

A developing regional botanic garden, education and ecosystem recovery centre for the Southern Tablelands



www.STEP.asn.au

Forest 20

NATIONAL ARBORETUM CANBERRA

<i>E. macrorhyncha</i>	<i>E. blakelyi</i>
<i>E. rossii</i>	<i>E. dalrympleana</i>
<i>E. mannifera</i>	<i>E. delegatensis</i>
<i>E. nortonii</i>	<i>E. viminalis</i>
<i>E. albens</i>	<i>E. polyanthemus</i>
<i>E. dives</i>	<i>E. melliodora</i>
<i>E. bridgesiana</i>	<i>E. pauciflora</i>
<i>E. rubida</i>	<i>E. stellulata</i>
<i>Eucalypt wildings</i>	

Forest 20 differs from other forests at the National Arboretum Canberra. 16 species of *Eucalyptus* typical of the forests and woodlands of the Southern Tablelands region of New South Wales (including the Australian Capital Territory) have been planted.

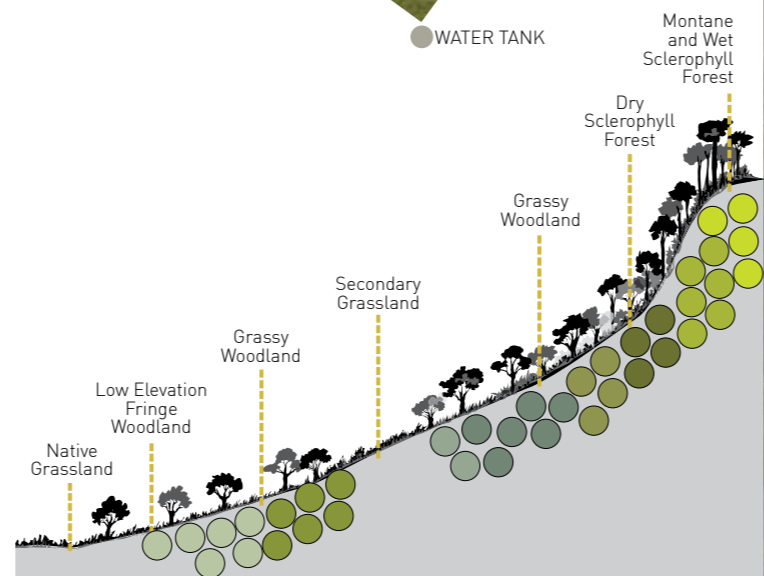
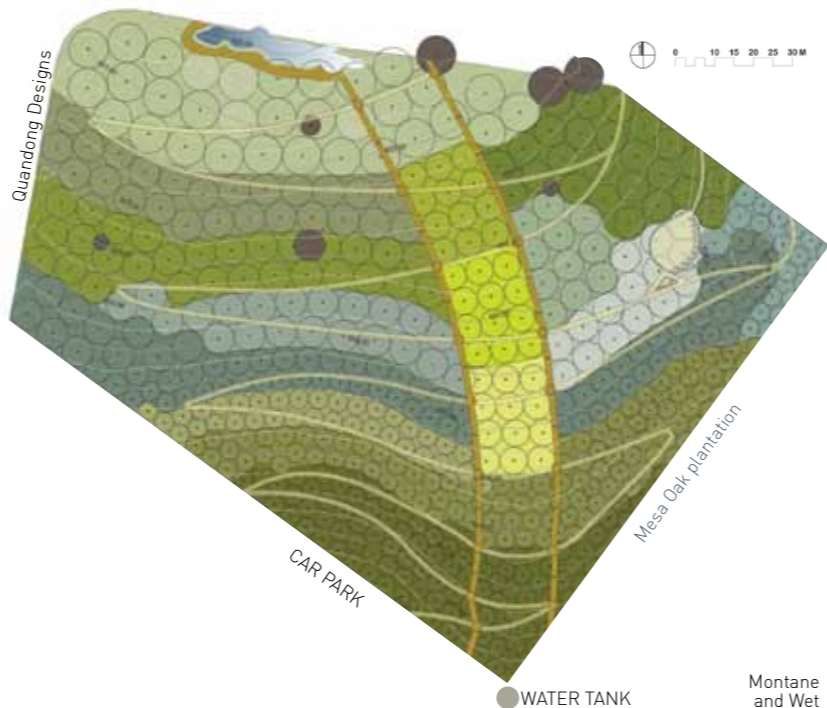
The trees on Forest 20 are arranged in bands that represent an approximation to their landscape position in the Southern Tablelands. Dry forest species are grouped on the higher parts, open woodland species are in the middle and species found in areas that receive cold air drainage are located in the lowest area. Species found in wetter, montane locations are planted in the central area, which receives the most run-off from other parts of the local catchment.

In time, parts of the site will display some of the shrubs, herbs and grasses commonly found beneath the forest and woodland canopies. We hope to help visitors learn more about the key elements of the region's natural ecosystems.

A small ephemeral wetland is being developed at the bottom of Forest 20, and species suitable to this habitat are being planted. We are also considering planting some of the rarer eucalypts of the Southern Tablelands.

Photo credits

- Australian National Botanic Gardens www.anbg.gov.au
- John Evans
- David Shorthouse



For more information visit us on www.STEP.asn.au

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What is STEP?

The Southern Tablelands Ecosystems Park was formed in 2002 with the aim of establishing a regional botanic garden, conservation and educational resource in the heart of Canberra. Several sites were considered before we were offered space as part of the developing National Arboretum Canberra. STEP is now established on **Forest 20** and is pursuing its aims in partnership with the National Arboretum Canberra.

We are planting a microcosm of the vegetation typical of the Southern Tablelands region of NSW and ACT. This complements the Arboretum's mosaic of forest trees that are rare, endangered, or have ethno-botanical or symbolic values.

STEP welcomes visitors to **Forest 20**. Individuals, community groups, schools and others are welcome to join this exciting project. We have regular working parties and other activities designed to progress our vision.



Eucalyptus albens White Box

Small to medium (20–25m) woodland tree, forming a lignotuber. Bark rough, grey, and finely fissured, persistent on the trunk and lower branches, shedding in short ribbons.

Juvenile leaves, oval and alternate, adult leaves long (7–15cm) and broad (2–5cm), dull grey-green, with veins at 45° to the midrib. Buds on stalks and in clusters of 7, with white flowers March–June. Barrel shaped fruit, 0.5–1cm wide.

Distribution: western slopes and tablelands of NSW reaching north to the Bunya Mountains in Queensland and south to the ranges of north-eastern Victoria.

Has been **used for** heavy engineering and construction, poles, railway sleepers, fencing, fuel and for honey production.



Eucalyptus blakelyi Blakely's Red Gum

Medium sized (25m) tree with smooth white bark shed in large, irregular flakes leaving grey, white and red-brown patches, though scaly at the base.

Juvenile leaves are blue-green and orb-like, opposite for a few pairs then alternate. Adult leaves are blue green to green, alternate, 6–20cm long, pointed with moderately dense oil glands. 7–15 pointed buds, to 1.9cm long produce white flowers in October–December. Fruit globular on longish stems.

Distribution: from Victoria, mainly north of the Great Dividing Range, to the tablelands of NSW and far south-eastern Queensland. Frequently found on lower slopes and better soils where it is a common paddock tree and planted as a street tree, see particularly Black Mountain Peninsula.

Red Gum has been **used for** fencing, fuel, gum and honey.



Eucalyptus bridgesiana Apple Box

Small to medium (8 – 20m) tree with rough, tessellated grey bark usually extending to the limbs and often cracked into blocks at the base. Trunk and branches often large and gnarled with a spreading crown.

Juvenile leaves have no stalk, are grey and heart shaped with fine wavy edge. Adult leaves alternate with stalks, tapering to a long point (12 – 20cm) with few to no oil glands. Seven oval to pointed buds in stemmed clusters producing white flowers (January to April). The fruit is short stalked, cup-shaped with a domed top and protruding valves.

Distribution: from central and eastern Victoria, NSW tablelands and far south-east Queensland. Commonly on lower valley slopes often on alluvial flats and with Yellow Box and Blakely's Red Gum.

It produces gum and honey.



Eucalyptus dalrympleana Mountain Gum

Medium-sized to tall (15–40m) tree with smooth yellow or white to cream bark throughout or with a short stocking of persistent rough greyish bark.

Juvenile leaves opposite, round and grey-green. Adult leaves 8–20cm long, glossy green and pointed, with oil glands that are difficult to see.

Three round-pointed buds with short or no stems, in leaf axils. White flowers March–June. Cup-shaped fruit with a slight dome and protruding valves.

Distribution: mountain country in NSW, Victoria and South Australia (Mt Lofty Range only) and lower elevations in Tasmania. In the ACT, only on higher and wettest ridges along Mt Franklin Road in the Brindabella Range.

Widely **used for** gum, framing, flooring, paneling, joinery and handles.



Eucalyptus delegatensis

Alpine Ash

Medium to tall (25 – 80m) tree. Rough bark often furrowed, stringy or fibrous on part of the trunk; upper branches with smooth white, cream, yellow, grey or grey-green bark, often with scribbles.

Distinctive juvenile leaves that hang down, are grey-green on short stems, elongated though rounded tips. Adult leaves 7.5-23cm, stalked, alternate, broad, grey-green and asymmetrical about the midrib. 7–15 dark green to red buds form on short stems in leaf axils. White flowers (December-March) followed by short stalked, barrel to pear shaped fruit.

Distribution: high mountain country in southern NSW, eastern Victoria and Tasmania (lower terrain). In the ACT pure stands found on cool moist upper slopes along the Mt Franklin Road below Piccadilly Circus.

A prized Australian timber **used for** building, furniture, pulp for paper; source of gum and honey.



Eucalyptus macrorhyncha

Red Stringybark

Medium tree (35m), with a straight trunk, well-rounded crown and lignotubers. Deeply fissured, rough grey or grey-red bark, often cinnamon-red underneath.

Juvenile leaves are blue-grey, short or no stalk, oval with roughened surface. Mature leaves are glossy or dull green, with side veins at acute angle to mid-rib, 4–7.5 cm long, pointed or curved with many 'island' oil glands.

Buds with a very pointed cover in clusters of 7,9,11. Flowers are white November–February. Fruit is circular-globular, 3–4 valves prominent.

Distribution: central Victoria to lower ranges and tablelands of NSW, on dry stony outcrops, often with Scribbly Gum and Brittle Gum. Good stands on Black Mountain and other ACT hills.

Bark **used by** Indigenous people for fibre. Timber used in construction and fencing, flowers used for honey.



Eucalyptus melliodora

Yellow box

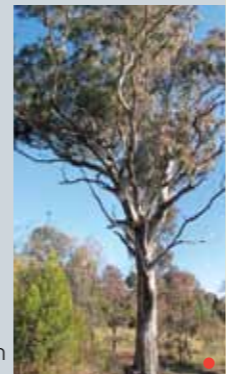
Small to tall (12–30m) tree with spreading, symmetrical crown. Bark is rough, fairly loose, fibrous, yellowish brown, covering the base only or the whole trunk, then merging into smooth, yellow to greyish white along the upper trunk and branches.

Juvenile leaves are blue grey with stems, alternate, pointed or rounded. Adult leaves are 6–14cm long, dull green to grey green usually pointed but some more oval.

Buds in clusters of 7, with pointed or round caps producing white flowers November–January. The fruit is stalked, small and pear-shaped with sunken valves.

Distribution: Victoria and NSW especially inland of the Dividing Range and just into Queensland. Common around Canberra and widely planted as a street tree.

Timber **used for** construction, poles, railway sleepers, fencing and fuel. Source of gum and honey.



Eucalyptus pauciflora

Snow Gum/White Sally

Small to tall (shrub to 30m) tree. Bark smooth, usually to ground level, creamy yellow or white with grey and sometimes reddish streaks. Insect 'scribbles' often prominent on the trunk in larger trees.

Juvenile leaves grey-green, opposite with no stems initially and oval. Adult leaves 6-18cm long curved or straight, opposite with few, parallel veins and 'island' oil glands. Buds in clusters (9-15) in leaf axils, conical with small tips. White flowers in October–January. Fruit moderately-large pear-shaped with a flattish top and short stalk.

Distribution: wide across the tablelands and alps of NSW, southern Victoria and central and north-eastern Tasmania. In the ACT it occurs from high mountain areas around Piccadilly Circus to lower elevation, frost hollows (e.g. Aranda Bushland). Also planted around Canberra city. Once **used for** fence palings, fuel, honey and ornamental purposes.



Eucalyptus rossii

Scribbly Gum

Small to medium (8–20m) tree. Completely smooth bark, bright yellow to pale orange, weathering to white with insect 'scribbles' on the surface. Later, wrinkles often appear at the base of branches. Easily distinguished from Brittle Gum by characteristic 'scribbles' and wrinkles.

Juvenile leaves in 6–8 opposite pairs, on short stems. Adult leaves narrowly pointed, 5.5–15cm long and up to 2.5cm wide, green to blue-green with many fine oil glands. Clusters of 9–15 buds precede white flowers December–February. Fruits stalked, pear-shaped or almost globular with flattened, reddish top and small valves.

Distribution: western side of the Great Dividing Range in NSW from the ACT north to Tenterfield and west to the Pilliga scrub, usually on shallow, stony soils and on NE to NW aspects. Good stands occur on Black Mountain and Mt Ainslie in the ACT.



Eucalyptus stellulata

Black Sally

Small to medium (5–14m) tree with distinctive smooth grey-brown to olive green bark on the upper trunk and main branches with a rough, dark stocking at the base and ribbons of bark in upper branches.

Juvenile leaves opposite, circular to pointy, blue-grey without stems initially. Adult leaves are glossy green, parallel veined, with few 'island' oil glands, pointed to ovate 5–11cm long.

Star-like clusters of many small pointed buds in leaf axils produce white flowers March-June followed by cup shaped or globular fruits.

Distribution: Common in poorly drained or subalpine sites from eastern Victoria to similar high country sites in NSW north to Tenterfield, especially on basaltic soils. Near Canberra found in Namadgi National Park, for example the Orroral Valley.

It has been **used for** gum, timber and honey.



Eucalyptus dives

Broad-leaved Peppermint

Medium sized (up to 20m) tree, with grey, finely interlaced and crumbly-fibrous bark, sometimes coarsely fissured at the base in mature trees. Upper branches are smooth.

Notable among the peppermints for juvenile leaves with no stem, opposite in pairs and blue grey colour. Mature leaves 7–15cm long, broad, pointed, stalked and alternate with many obvious oil glands and strong peppermint smell when crushed.

Tight clusters of buds (11 to many) on slightly flattened stalks, leading to white flowers in October-November. The fruit is pear-shaped with a flattish top.

Distribution: widespread from the Northern Tablelands of NSW to eastern Victoria, usually on very poor stony soils. Locally on Black Mountain and in Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve.

Has been **used for** gum, timber, fuel, oils, honey and medicinal (Indigenous).



Eucalyptus mannifera

Brittle Gum

Small to medium (to 20m) tree with generally white bark, powdery to touch, very pale yellow, when fresh. NO scribbles on the bark or wrinkles below the branches (compare with Scribbly Gum with which it commonly occurs).

Juvenile leaves have no stalk, are dull green, alternate and linear. Adult leaves are dull green, 7–18.5cm long, usually pointed with dense network of veins, many 'island' oil glands, and leaf margin vein parallel to the central vein. Buds (clusters of 7) cup-shaped with domed top and short stems. White flowers from February-April. Fruit cup shaped to hemispherical with protruding valves.

Distribution: central and southern Tablelands of NSW to the hills and slopes of eastern Victoria, on dry lower slopes, commonly west and southerly aspects. Found naturally on Black Mountain.

Used for fuel wood and as a street tree; produces good honey. Also known as Red-spotted Gum.



Eucalyptus nortonii

Large-flowered Bundy

Small, rarely medium (8–15m) tree with rough grey-brown flaky bark that is thick and coarsely fissured especially at the base.

Juvenile leaves have no stalk, opposite and usually heart shaped or rounded, grey blue and leathery.

Adult leaves are dull blue green to grey green, 8.5–30cm long, alternate and pointed with hard to see oil glands. Buds in clusters of 7 produce white flowers February–March and cylindrical fruit.

Distribution: mostly from the southern part of the Northern Tablelands of NSW through hilly country of the Southern Tablelands and into north-eastern and central Victoria. In the ACT it is found along the Monaro Highway, at Tharwa and in the Gibraltar-Tidbinbilla areas. It occurs usually on poor, steep, stony soils. Also known as Long-leaved Box.



Eucalyptus polyanthemos

Red Box

Small to medium-sized (6–20m) tree. Bark rough, finely fissured, pale grey and white but trunks can be smooth and blotchy to grey creamy-white.

Juvenile leaves stemmed and opposite usually grey/blue and rounded. Adult leaves are 6–15.5cm long with large numbers of oil glands, blue green to blue grey, often oval to rounded.

White flowers, from 7 buds, September–December. Fruits stalked and cup-shaped to conical.

Distribution: from NSW Southern Tablelands to eastern and central Victoria, often on dry, stony ridges. In the ACT found on the western slopes and top of Black Mountain and the Molonglo Gorge. It is widely planted in Canberra and Queanbeyan.

Used for gum extraction, fencing, fuel and as a shade and street tree.



Eucalyptus rubida

Candlebark

Small to medium (10–25m) tree, with smooth, white and powdery bark, often rough near the base like a dripping candle, red hues in autumn and often chop-marked.

Juvenile leaves grey green, round (5–6cm), opposite with no stalk. Adult leaves stalked, alternate, to 15cm, grey-green and pointed with obscure oil glands.

3 rounded buds in leaf axils, produce white flowers November-December, followed by rounded fruit, with short or no stem.

Distribution: widespread, usually on poor, shallow soils from tablelands and mountains of eastern NSW to eastern, central and western Victoria; also in Tasmania. Common in the colder parts of the ACT mainly on drier and lower slopes extending to the edge of grassy plains, good examples along Majura Road north of the airport.



Eucalyptus viminalis

Ribbon Gum/Manna Gum

Medium to tall (25–50m) tree. Silvery white trunk mostly smooth in mountain forms, but many populations have a black butt or rough bark over most of the trunk. Bark shed in ribbons that hang from the branches or are retained in the crown.

Juvenile leaves green, opposite and pointed to oblong. Adult leaves glossy or dull green, 8-23cm long, with dense venation.

Three long pointed buds form in the leaf axils and produce white flowers from January-May. Fruits stalkless, cup-shaped with protruding valves.

Distribution: from South Australia, through Victoria, Tasmania and eastern NSW (inland). In the ACT at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve and on the ANU campus.

Used in building, joinery, pulp and timber, and for gums, honey, medicinal (Indigenous).

