



Pink Poplar



Not to be confused with the dwarf mango



This native rainforest tree is in the mango family *Anacardiaceae*, its crushed leaves and broken twigs produce a clear sap with an odour similar to mango. The fruit is also shaped like a small mango but it is there that the likeness ends.

Not a popular fruit for us – it apparently tastes nothing like a mango. It is however, feasted upon by many native bird species and those mango smelling leaves are really popular with Lumholtz's tree-kangaroo.

Uses

Although its wood resembles Red Cedar it is woolly, difficult to work and is non-durable. It was used for brake blocks on bullock wagons in the past. The wood is pinkish (hence one of its common names, Maiden's Blush).

Propagation and cultivation

Deciduous in drought. A beautiful, relatively fast growing, resilient shade tree that can be grown from fresh seed.

Family: *Anacardiaceae*

Genus: *Euroschinus*

Botanic name: *Euroschinus falcatus*

Euroschinus derived from the Latin *eurus* meaning east, and the existing South American genus *schinus*. The species epithet *falcatus* is Latin for curved or sickle-shaped, referring to the leaves.

Also known as: Pink Poplar, Blush Cudgerie, Port Macquarie Beech, Maiden's Blush

Origin: Australia – covering almost the entire east coast from Cape York Peninsula to Jervis Bay

Habitat: Tropical and sub-tropical rainforests, including beach forest and riparian forest, but is probably most common in monsoon forest.

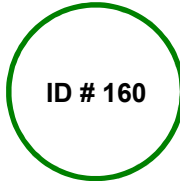
Description: A semi-deciduous tree growing up to 30m tall with wrinkly to tessellated grey brown bark. Larger specimens may be buttressed.

Glossy green leaves have between four and ten sickle-shaped leaflets measuring up to 15 by 7cm. The leaflets have 6 to 11 pairs of lateral veins and are either opposite or alternately arranged, with no true terminal leaflet.



The tree bears fragrant male and female flowers – white, cream or green and held on very short stalks about 0.5 m long. The calyx is green or yellow with lobes up to 1mm long, petals are about 3mm long. Flowers October to December.

Fruit is a drupe, egg shaped like a small mango about 8mm long. They are green initially, becoming blue-purple or black when ripe, and they contain a single seed.



Sources:

plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
<https://sown.com.au/euroschinus-falcata-anacardiaceae-ribbonwood-blush-cudgerie/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euroschinus_falcatus