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Botanical name:

Corymbia citriodora

Common name:

Lemon-scented Gum

Origin:

Queensland, from coast to tablelands, north of Maryborough.

Typical height:

15-20 metres

Typical width:

10-15 metres

Growth rate:

Fast

Typical form:

Large evergreen tree. Variable in form though usually broad domed with spreading branches.

Characteristics:

Leaves narrow lanceolate, fresh green, concolourous. Distinctive citrus scent when crushed. Bark smooth, and can vary grey to pale grey, light pink or beige rarely white in Victoria. It sheds bark in thin curly flakes in spring through to early summer. Flowers white in large terminal corymbs, appearing December through January.

Site requirements:

Adaptable species grows in a range of soils. Requires space to take full advantage of its beautiful form

Tolerances:

Moderate drought and waterlogging tolerance. Susceptible to foliar and sap sucking insects.

Suitable for use under powerlines:

Not suitable.

Notes:

Formative pruning is required. Older, larger specimens can shed limbs.

Similar in outward appearance to Spotted Gum (*Corymbia maculata*). Most easily distinguished by the citrus aroma in its foliage, and it's mostly smooth (not mottled) bark.

Facts and trivia:

Of economic importance in terms of structural timber and honey production. Its volatile oil is an important commodity for cosmetics, medicines, and insect repellents.

Two of the more famous specimens in Melbourne are growing in the large round-about on Cemetery Road in Carlton.

References:

Kellow, J. (Ed), 1997, *The Burnley manual of trees Vol. 1 first edition*, University of Melbourne, Australia.

CPBR, 2006, *Corymbia citriodora*,
<<https://www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/cd-keys/euclid3/euclidsample/html/about.htm>>