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Botanical name:

Lophostemon conferus

Common name:

Queensland Brush Box

Origin:

Coastal forests from northern NSW to north Queensland.

Typical height:

10-15 metres

Typical width:

6-10 metres

Growth rate:

Moderate to fast

Typical form:

Medium tree sized tree with round headed to pyramidal form. Dense evergreen canopy.

Characteristics:

Foliage dark green, and glossy and paler beneath. Smooth orange to brown bark and flaky at base. Cream flowers in spring.

Site requirements:

Adapts to most soil types. Performs better where summer water is available. Grows well in urban areas.

Tolerances:

Average to low drought and frost tolerance, moderate tolerance to waterlogging, wind and pollution.

Suitable for use under powerlines:

Potentially with management. Responds well to pruning.

Notes:

Requires irrigation to establish. Responds well to pruning, formative pruning required

developing central trunk and strong structure.
Transplants easily.

Fruit and leaf litter can create a serious problem.
A variegated form is also available.

Facts and trivia:

Sometimes mistaken for eucalypts,
'*Lophostemon*' is an entirely different genus of trees. They can be easily distinguished by not having eucalyptus-scented leaves when crushed, and also by the peculiar fuzzy bundles of stamens arranged on its five-petalled white flowers.

References:

Spencer, R. (2002). *Horticultural flora of south-eastern Australia*. UNSW press.