

Kinogum eucalyptus

Eucalyptus resinifera Sm.

Myrtle family (Myrtaceae)

Post-Cook introduction

A large tree 150–200 ft (46–61 m) high and 2–3 ft (0.6–0.9 m) in trunk diameter. Crown dense, well branched, narrow to spreading. Bark reddish brown, rough, thick, persistent, very fibrous, becoming stringy; bark on branches light gray, smoothish. Inner bark reddish brown, fibrous, and tasteless. Bark resembles that of *E. microcorys* except that is firmer and red, rather than yellowish brown on inner surfaces. Twigs long slender, pinkish tinged.

Leaves alternate, with pinkish tinged leafstalks of $\frac{1}{2}$ –1 inch (13–25 mm). Blades lance-shaped, 4–7 inches (10–18 cm) long and $\frac{3}{4}$ –1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches (2–3 cm) wide, slightly curved, long-pointed at apex, base short-pointed and often with sides unequal, thick, shiny or dull dark green above, dull and paler beneath, with many fine straight parallel side veins, horizontal or drooping. Juvenile leaves opposite for 3–4 pairs, then alternate, short-stalked, narrowly lance-shaped, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ –2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches (4–6 cm) long and $\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (1.3–2 cm) wide, pale green.

Flower clusters (umbels) at leaf base about 1 inch (2.5 cm) long, including angled stalk. Flowers 5–10 on rounded stalks of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6 mm), more than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (2 cm) across the many spreading white stamens. Buds $\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{5}{8}$ inch (13–15 mm) long and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6 mm) wide, with half-round base occasionally two-ribbed and long conical lid abruptly long-pointed.

Seed capsules egg-shaped to half-round, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6 mm) in diameter, on stalk of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6 mm), with disk slightly convex and usually 4 prominent sharp-pointed raised valves.

Heartwood is reddish brown, pale when freshly cut and darkening on exposure to light. Grain usually straight, sometimes slightly interlocked. Moderately coarse texture. Wood is similar to *E. robusta* except that the grain is straighter. A heavy wood (sp. gr. 0.62) with large shrinkage in drying, with manufacturing problems caused by growth stress. Wood grown in Hawaii has not been used. Since it has a similar density and appearance to *E. robusta*, would probably be suitable for similar purposes.

Wood grown in Australia is much denser, and therefore stronger, than that from Hawaii. This durable, strong, easily worked wood is in demand for many uses, such as house construction, shipbuilding, general construction, railroad crossties, and as pulpwood.

The Division of Forestry has planted 90,000 trees on all islands. There are 1.3 million board feet of timber on the island of Hawaii, which has the largest volume of this species. The best stand of this tree is at Kalopa State Park, where there are many trees about 200 ft (61 m) tall.

Champion

Height 117 ft (35.7 m), c. b. h. 8 ft (2.4 m), spread 49 ft (14.9 m). Honaunau Forest Reserve, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii (1968).

Range

Eastern Australia, coastal regions. Usually scattered, occasionally in small almost pure stands, and more tolerant of shade than most eucalypts.

Other common names

red-mahogany eucalyptus (Hawaii); red-mahogany, red messmate (Australia)

This is one of the most promising of more than 30 species of *Eucalyptus* that have been tested experimentally in forest plantations in Puerto Rico. Widely grown in forest plantations elsewhere.



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Twig with flowers, fruits (lower left), twig with juvenile leaves (behind), 1 X (Maiden).