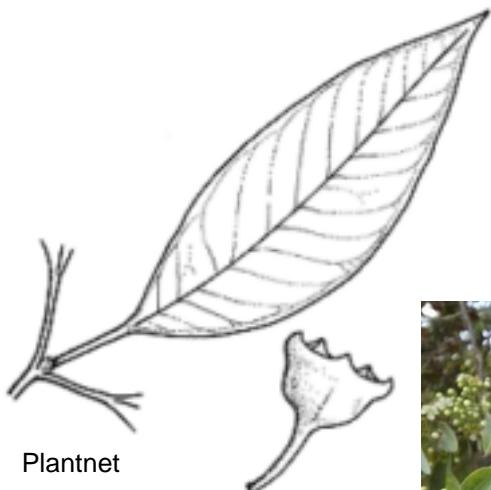


Myrtaceae

Lophostemon suaveolens

Coastal Swamp Box



Plantnet



M Bennett



G Tasney

ETYMOLOGY

(*Lophostemon*) From Loph = crested stamens referring to stamen clusters being crest-like; Species *suaveolens* = sweet scented flowers;

LIFEFORM

Tree 15-20 m x 4 m Spread

STATUS

Widespread, Common;

ORIGIN

Old Landsborough Rd to Mount Zero Q, Scott's Head NSW (NG) **HABITAT** Open forest, Floodplains

LEAVES

Alternate, 8-13 cm, elliptic to ovate, apex obtuse or acute margins entire, leathery oil dots numerous, light green above, paler below, new growth soft covered with white hairs on 1-2 cm stalks;

FLOWERS

White, 13 mm, sweet scented (5 petals + 5 stamens) united into feathery bundles, anthers versatile in cymes, 4 cm across; **Flowering Times:** Nov, Dec, Jan

FRUIT

Capsules, 4-8 mm, soft walled, flared at the ends open with three valves about the rim level numerous seeds; **Fruiting Times:** Dec, Jan, Feb, March, April, May, June, July

BARK

Flaky fibrous papery red-brown persistent bark; Looks rough composed of quite soft layers like Large tree with twisted distorted branches, new growth densely hairy; tissue paper

TRUNK or STEM

Timber useful for piles & underground work where it will contract the ground; Flowers geranium scent, food for Grey-headed Flying-fox, Qld Blossom Bat, Brushtail Possums, Gliders. Nectar plant for birds and butterflies; Good yield of very pale honey & candies; bottlebrush orchid; Eclectus parrot (nesting)

ETHNOBOTANY

Ring-barker Stick Insect, Gall Wasps, Leaf Miners, *Phylacteophaga froggatti* Leafblister Sawfly Resistant to termite attack; Not susceptible to Lyctine Borer attack;

INSECTS

Rainbow Lorikeet, Banded Honeyeater, White Streaked Honeyeater,

BIRD

Hypochrysops ignitus (Fiery Jewel), *Hypochrysops miskini* (Coral Jewel), *Hypochrysops*

BUTTERFLY/MOTH

narcissus (Narcissus Jewel) *Chaetocneme denitza* (Ornate Dusk-flat), *Chaetocneme beata* (Eastern Dusk-flat), *Netrocoryne repanda* (Bronze Flat), *Astrocaligula eucalypti* (Emperor Gum Moth)

INDIGENOUS USES

Aborigines used bark to make canoes;

ID FEATURES

Petals 3 mm, scented flowers + Staminal 3 mm claws + Sepals broad persistent in fruit;

