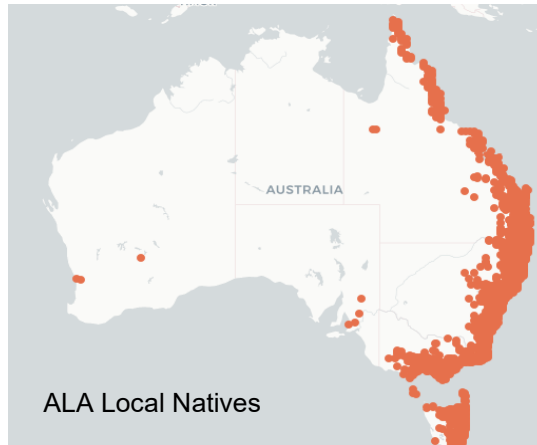


Casuarinaceae

Allocasuarina littoralis

black she-oak



Ann Moran
Field Botanist



ETYMOLOGY

(al-o-caz-yoo-a-REE-na) Allo Greek = other, another + casuarina = like a Cassowary species; The species *littoralis* (lit-toh-RAH-lis) means sea shore from litus shore.

LIFEFORM

Tree 6-15 m x 3 m spread

OCCURS

Endemic eastern Australia Cape York Qld to Holsworthy NSW, Vic, Tas

QLD DISTRICTS

Burnett, Cook, Daring Downs, Leichhardt, Moreton, North/South Kennedy, Port Curtis, Wide Bay

HABITAT

Eucalypt Woodland, Scrub

LEAVES

Cladodes, dark green twig-like needles (6-8 teeth) on fine branchlets with true leaves whitish.

FLOWERS

Dioecious, Male: fluffy brown terminal spikes resemble catkins; Wind-pollinated; Female: red hairs on stalks along branches.

FRUIT

Flowering Times March, April, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov
Cones, 12-18 mm, oblong, grey woody with small blunt valves in even rows containing winged seeds; Called Orts when eaten by Cockatoos; **Fruiting Times** 20th Dec, Jan
Dark black brown hard closely fissured rough bark sometime chunky; Host orchids/ferns.

BARK

STEMS

ETHNOBOTANY

Loosely pyramidal small tree with erect (curving upward) ribbed very fine branchlets
Medium importance as source of pollen for honeybees (Clemenson 1985) Foliage browsed by livestock during drought; Timber wood deep brown boldly flecked strong, Excellent fuel, widely used in the past for shingles, handles, rough furniture and farm buildings.

LANDSCAPE

Ornamental potential usage in landscaping; Planted for windbreaks and revegetation. Florists use cut flowers and dry leaves in flower trade;

TOLERANTS

Full sun; Frost tolerant. Fast growing; Fixing nitrogen (from air) to roots.

WILDLIFE

Highly susceptible to browsing by animals; Foliage eaten by goats and rabbits

MISTLETOES

Host plant for *Amyema congener*.

INSECTS

Coptopterus decoratus, *Phacodes personatus*, Brown Stick Insect, Casuarina Galls, Twig Girdling Longicorn, *Cylindrococcus spiniferus*, *Actinomycetes* Bacteria in root nodules

BIRDS

Glossy Black Cockatoo, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo