



Prickly Paperbark

Melaleuca styphelioides



Family: Myrtaceae

Tree 8 - 20 m with papery bark



Distribution: from Nowra in New South Wales and northwards into Queensland.

Description: Has a dense, rounded canopy and drooping branchlets. The spongy bark is white or light brown and peels off in large strips. Leaves are slightly twisted, and have sharply-pointed tips. Flowers appear in summer in cream or white cylindrical "bottlebrush" spikes, followed by woody capsules appearing in clusters along the branchlets.

Propagation: Woody capsules will release the fine seed when placed in an open container or paper bag, in a warm position, in 2-3 days. For best results, the capsules should be at least 12 month's old. Also propagate from cuttings.

Habitat: Occurs along stream banks or other moist situations, mostly in coastal areas. Also thrives in a variety of situations ranging from swampy to hot and dry, and due to its deep-rooting characteristics lawn can be grown under its canopy.

Uses: Bird attracting, ornamental street tree.