

# *Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *pseudoglobulus*



*Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *pseudoglobulus*.  
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

**FAMILY:** MYRTACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** (Naudin ex Maiden)  
J.B.Kirkp., *Bot. J. Linn. Soc.* 69: 101 (1975)

**COMMON NAME:** Gippsland blue gum

**COMMONWEALTH STATUS:** (*EPBC Act*)  
Not Listed

**TASMANIAN STATUS:** (*TSP Act*) rare

## Description

*Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *pseudoglobulus* is a tree that grows to approximately 45 m tall. The species has smooth, dense bark on the trunk, which peels off in long ribbons. **Leaves:** The adult leaves are lance-shaped with stalks that attach them to the stem. They are asymmetrical, between 13-25 cm long and 15-30 mm wide, arranged alternately on the stem and mostly dull green to dark green in colour. The juvenile leaves are roughly egg-shaped, stalkless, up to 10.5 cm long and have dull blue-green upper surfaces with pale blue-green below. The juvenile leaves are oppositely arranged, usually with pale blue-green square stems. **Buds:** The buds are broadly club-shaped with a turban-shaped operculum (lid-like covering) up to 9 mm long, coarsely warty, pale blue-green and stalked. The buds are in clusters of 3 situated on a broad flat flower stalk. The operculum is more or less flat with a central conical point. **Fruit:** The fruit is cup-shaped and grows to between 7-11 mm long and 9-16 mm wide. It is more or less smooth and borne on short stalks. The fruit has 4-5 openings on the upper surface of the capsule, which is situated at rim level or can be slightly protruding. **Confusing species:** This species is very similar to *Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *globulus* and is distinguished mainly by the smaller capsules that are in groups of 3 compared with *Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *globulus* that normally has 1 bud per flowering part (Flora of Australia 1988, Viridans 1998). **This species was previously known as *Eucalyptus bicostata* (sensu Curtis & Morris 1975).**

## **Distribution and Habitat**

On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria. Research indicates that the Tasmanian distribution of *Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *pseudoglobulus* is limited to Rodondo Island in the Bass Strait. Records of this species from the north of Flinders Island are considered to have closer affinities to Tasmanian *Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *globulus*, even though they tend to be multiple fruited. The plants from the Furneaux Group represent an important part of the evolutionary processes that have occurred within the *globulus* complex (B. Potts pers. comm.).

On Rodondo Island, *Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *pseudoglobulus* is found within *Melaleuca armillaris* forest with damp understorey (ferns etc). Overall the habitat is quite dry with annual rainfall not exceeding 5-600 mm, however the height of the island attracts cloud cover through an orographic effect (caused by humid air being forced to rise up the slopes of mountains) and moisture is then stripped from the air (S. Harris pers. comm.).

## **Key Sites and Populations**

Rodondo Island is the only known location of this species in Tasmania.

## **Known Reserves**

Reserved in the Rodondo Island Nature Reserve.

## **Ecology and Management**

Birds and insects are the most likely pollination vectors for this species (A. Hingston pers. comm.).

## **Conservation Status Assessment**

There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Eucalyptus globulus* ssp. *pseudoglobulus*.

## **Further Information**

- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1975, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 1, Government Printer, Hobart.
- Flora of Australia 1998, *Volume 12: Mimosaceae (excl. Acacia), Caesalpiniaceae*, CSIRO Melbourne/ABRS Canberra.
- Jordan, G, Potts, BM, Kirkpatrick JB & Gardiner C 1993, 'Variation in the *Eucalyptus globulus* Complex Revisited', *Australian Journal of Botany*, vol.41, pp.763-85.
- Viridans Biological Databases 1998, *Wild Plants of Victoria*, Brighton East, Victoria.
- Williams, KJ & Potts BM 1996, 'The Natural Distribution of *Eucalyptus* species in Tasmania', *Tasforests* (December 1996), Forestry Tasmania, Hobart.

## **Tasmanian Distribution**

### **Rodondo Island is not marked on the distribution maps**

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