

Acmena smithii

(Myrtaceae)

- Common name:** Lilly pilly.
- Localities:** Widespread along watercourses throughout the district.
- Growth form:** Small to large bushy tree with a dense crown, sometimes buttressed.
- Foliage:** Leaves are simple and thin-textured, dark green and glossy above, paler beneath, up to 16 cm long and 8 cm wide. Trees from different districts differ markedly in leaf size and shape. Young foliage is an attractive red in colour.
- Flowers and fruit:** Flowers are in terminal panicles and have minute petals; they appear in spring to summer. These are followed by purple or white fruit 8-20 mm in diameter.
- Habitat:** Widely distributed in both subtropical and dry rainforest along watercourses, also along watercourses in eucalypt forest.
- Propagation and Management:** This species can be propagated from fresh seed or from cuttings. It can be grown in full sun or shade and does best on fertile soils, although it will tolerate poor soils.
- General:** Attracts fruit-eating birds and also nectar-feeders such as honeyeaters and spinebills. The fruit is edible. A useful species to grow along flood-prone watercourses.

