

Carissa ovata
(Apocynaceae)

- Common name:** Carissa.
- Localities:** Brisbane River Bank, Grandview Rd, Kholo Creek, Moggill State Forest, Priors Pocket, Savages Rd, Upper Brookfield.
- Growth form:** A handsome, intricately-branched shrub to 2 m tall, or a scrambling climber to 4.5 m, with spiny stems.
- Foliage:** Leaves simple, opposite, glossy and leathery, up to 5 cm long and 4 cm wide.
- Flowers and fruit:** Flowers white, fragrant, about 6 mm across, in compact inflorescences. They are produced through most of the year and are followed by purplish-black fruit about 1.5 cm long.
- Habitat:** Dry rainforest, subtropical rainforest and also eucalypt forest.
- Propagation and Management:** May be propagated from fresh seed or cuttings. A hardy species, tolerating a range of conditions, but at its best in some shade.
- General:** The ripe fruit are black and are both edible and tasty. They also attract fruit-eating birds.

