

Casuarina cunninghamiana
(Casuarinaceae)

Common name: River oak.

Localities: Bellbowrie Bridge, Kholo Creek, Rafting Ground, Upper Brookfield and abundant along watercourses throughout the district.

Growth form: A medium tree to 15 m tall, with dark, fissured bark.

Foliage: The true leaves are minute, and what appear to be leaves are really fine, jointed stems, resembling the needles of a pine tree.

Flowers and fruit: Flowers are minute and male and female flowers are carried in separate inflorescences. The fruit is a small cone 5-9 mm long and 6-8 mm wide.

Habitat: Grows along creek and river banks.

Propagation and Management: Propagated from seed. River oak is a fast-growing tree.

General: A useful tree to prevent or control erosion along creeks. The related *Allocasuarina torulosa* (forest she-oak) occurs on ridges in the district and attracts black cockatoos.

