

***Eucalyptus melanophloia***  
(Myrtaceae)

- Common name:** Silver-leaved ironbark.
- Localities:** A common component of eucalypt forest in our area.
- Growth form:** Tree to 20 m tall, with rough, furrowed black bark and the crown more rounded and denser than many eucalypts.
- Foliage:** Leaves are opposite (in contrast to most species in the genus), with minute petioles. The leaf blades are up to 9 cm long, 3.5 cm wide and are an attractive silver-grey in colour.
- Flowers and fruit:** Flowers mainly in summer
- Habitat:** Prefers moderately fertile soils. Silver leaved ironbark tends to be a species of sloping land, avoiding the poorer ridges and more fertile alluvial flats.
- Propagation and Management:** Propagated by seed. Very hardy and drought-tolerant, once established.
- General:** An attractive and distinctive species which blends well with other species in the genus. A source of pollen for honey bees. Other ironbarks occurring in our area are *E. crebra* (narrow-leaved ironbark) and *E. siderophloia* (grey ironbark).

