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FLOODED GUM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Eucalyptus rudis*

DESCRIPTION: The Moitch or Flooded Gum (also known as a River Gum or WA Blue Gum) is an upright, rounded-canopy tree that grows from 5 to 20 metres high. The bark is rough dark grey on the trunk with smooth grey upper branches. The mature leaves are dull, grey or blue green and up to 140 mm long and 30 mm wide. The Flooded Gum is widespread along watercourses in coastal Western Australia from Geraldton to Bunbury and inland for 100 - 125km. The white to cream flowers appear from July to October.

HABITAT: Sandy or Loam soils in the wetter parts of south-western WA, flats, hillsides.

STATUS: Not threatened

INTERESTING FACTS: The Flooded Gum is able to survive long periods of winter flooding but is prone to attacks by lerps that, if sustained over several years, can result in the death of the tree. The Flooded Gum is an important tree for the prevention of bank erosion and salinity.



Eucalyptus rudis

Photos: S.D. Hopper