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SCIENTIFIC NAME: Eucalyptus gomphocephala

DESCRIPTION: The Tuart, or White Gum, is a medium sized to tall tree that grows to up to 40 metres high. It has dense foliage, dull grey bark and showy white to cream flowers.. Its rough, fibrous grey bark flakes into small pieces. The leaves are often curved, 90 to 160 millimetres long, and are a shiny light green above and paler below. Tuart buds are very distinctive; they have swollen bud caps and are shaped like small ice cream cones. Tuart trees flower in summer and early autumn

HABITAT: The Tuart likes sandy soils in coastal limestone areas.

STATUS: Not threatened.

INTERESTING FACTS: In the past, the Tuart's light yellow wood was prized for its high density and resistance to wear. Tuart timber was used to craft whim and wagon wheels, journals for propeller shafts, decking for wagons, telegraph pegs and tool handles. After World War II, a tuart mill was built at Ludlow especially for rolling stock construction.

