

Genus

Eucalyptus & Corymbia

aka Gums: Blue, Red, Sugar, Lemon Scented, Spearmint (not that one)



- Dicot
- Single stem, flowering woody plant = Tree
- Some are multi-stemmed mallees = Shrub
- Evergreen – until the wind blows
- Bark: smooth, hard or fibrous
- Fruit: woody capsule called a gumnut

Why are they so prevalent?

Drought and
heat tolerant

Grow in very
poor soil

Ability to
extract water

Fast growing



What good are they?

- Nectar provides food to insects and birds
- Oil from leaves can be a natural disinfectant
- Leaves, if you are a koala
- Pulp industry
- Wind breaks
- Help prevent soil erosion

The Big 3 Pests



Longhorned Borer



Australian Tortoise
Beetle



Lerp Psyllids

Fire Hazard

Bark and Leaf litter

Oil content very flammable



Talking Points

- Native to Australia
- Imported for timber – railroad ties, didn't work twists as it dries
- Grow in high density – like 8' apart
- Later 1/2 of 20th century encouraged for shade, timber, draining swamps
- Add a layer of bark every year and the outermost layer dies
- Leaves have oil glands – don't park under it
- Since 1980s considered invasive