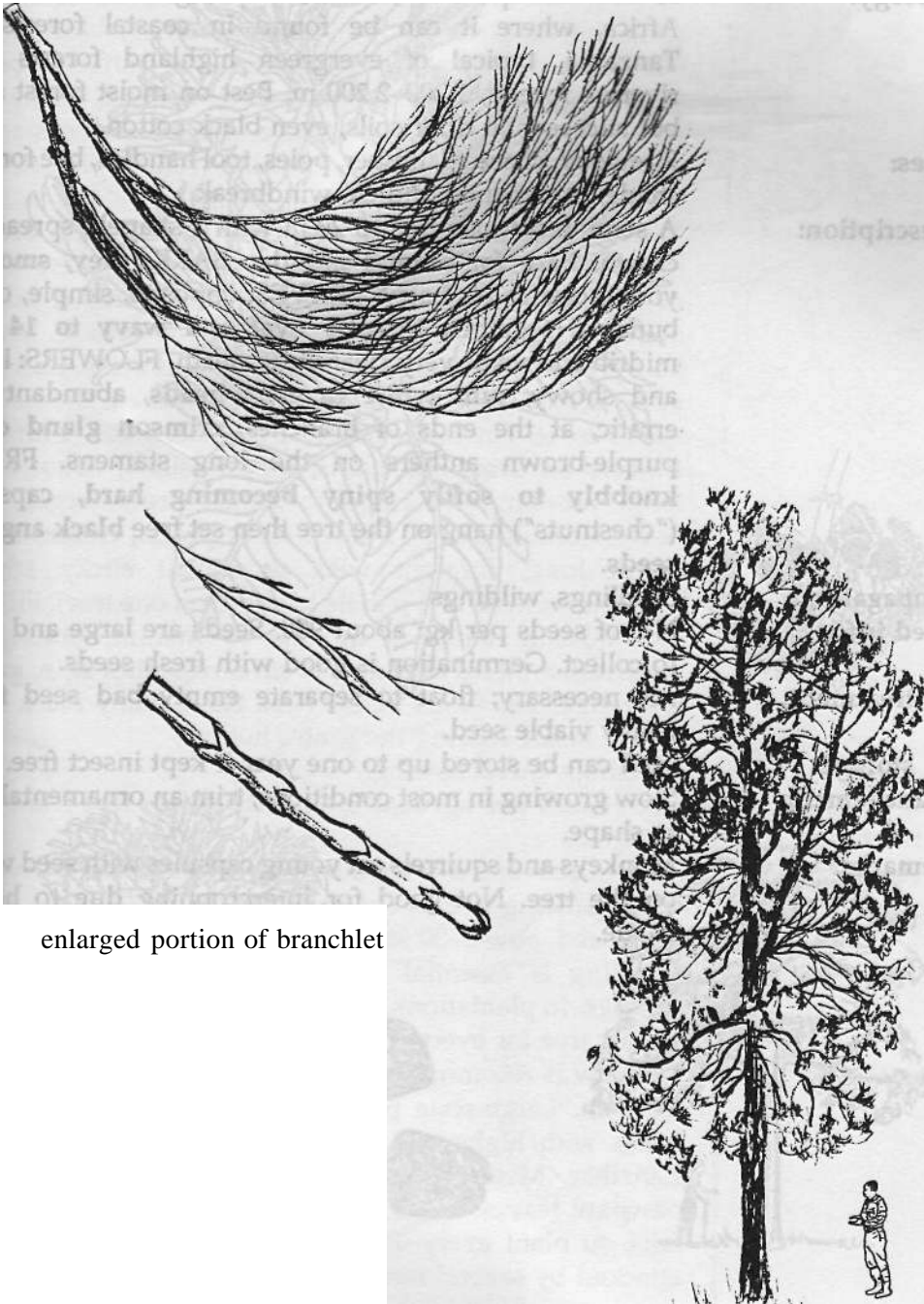


Callitris robusta (C. preissii)

Cupressaceae

Australia

- Common names:** **Eng:** common cypress pine, Moreton Bay cypress pine.
- Ecology:** In its natural range it is widely distributed in coastal sands in Queensland, Western Australia and adjacent islands. The most common conifer grown throughout Australia, it is planted elsewhere because it can survive in dry sandy conditions. In Tanzania, it is grown in mountain areas between 1,300 and 2,000 m.
- Uses:** Timber (furniture), poles, tools, live fence.
- Description:** An evergreen tree, up to 20 m, looking **like any "cypress"**, branches spreading or upright **but foliage finer**. **BARK:** grey, smooth when young, dark, **rough and cracking when old, resinous**. **LEAVES:** similar "cypress", the tiny scale leaves in whorls of three, tight pressed to branchlets. **FLOWERS:** male and female separate, towards ends of branchlets: male cylindrical, female a cone. **FRUIT: dark brown cones, single or clustered, up to 2.5 cm** across with 6 segments. Many tiny brown-black flat seeds released as cone dries and opens.
- Propagation:** Seedlings.
- Seed info.:** No. of seeds per kg: 80,000-100,000. Germination is uniform and takes 2-3 weeks.
- treatment:** no treatment required.
- storage:** can keep viability for one year at room temperature.
- Management:** A fairly fast-growing tree. The rotation period is 45-55 years in forestry.
- Remarks:** Natural regeneration by seed is profuse. Reputed to be very drought and frost tolerant. The timber is pale and decorative, the hard dense wood valued for flooring and also for poles as it is completely resistant to termites.



enlarged portion of branchlet