

Eucalyptus citriodora

Myrtaceae

Eastern Queensland (Australia)

Common names: **English:** Lemon-scented gum **Luganda:** Kalitunsi.

Ecology: Grows in a wide range of climates, and performs very well in the Central and Western Regions, 1,300-2,000 m.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, poles, timber, bee forage, medicine (leaves), windbreak, essential oils (citronellal).

Description: The tree may reach 40 m, with evergreen drooping foliage, the crown rounded. **BARK: jigsaw patterned, with patches** of grey, brown, yellow; older bark smooth grey-white. **LEAVES: very long and narrow, veins parallel to the edge.** **FLOWERS: smooth oval buds** on stalks, white flowers. **FRUIT: rather large, oblong cup-shaped, about 1 cm,** in clusters.

Propagation: Seedlings.

Seed: Species is not a prolific seeder like other *Eucalyptus* spp. Germination rate 60-90 %. No. of seeds per kg: 110,000-1,200,000.

treatment: not necessary,

storage: seed can be stored.

Management: Fast growing; coppicing.

Remarks: The tree is easily identified by the strong scent of lemon oil in the leaves which perfumes the air, especially after rain. Young seedlings are susceptible to termite attack. Large branches are brittle and break off in high winds. It produces heavy, durable wood from the straight trunk, but the timber is often attacked by borers (*Lyctus* spp.). Can be planted in a pure stand or as an ornamental or avenue tree.

