

Eucalyptus globulus subsp. globulus

Myrtaceae

S.W. Australia

Eng: *Tasmanian blue gum* Tg: *Tsaeda-kelamitos* Tr: *Kalabitos*

- Ecology:** A gum tree which comes from the cooler and wetter parts of south-west Australia and is suitable for high-altitude areas as it tolerates frost. Widely planted in the central highlands of Eritrea in deep soils on lower valley slopes and in valley bottoms, e.g. around Senafe, Hawatsu, Maereba, Adi-hawisha, Tokor, Gheshnashim and Afdeyu, 2,000-3,200 m.
- Uses:** **Firewood, charcoal, poles** (power lines), **posts, timber** (heavy and light construction), veneer, plywood, medicine, bee forage, windbreak, essential oil (young leaves).
- Description:** A tall tree to 55 m, rather narrow, the crown rounded and open, the main stems straight. **BARK:** Blue-grey, smooth, peeling in long strips, rough at base. **LEAVES:** Young leaves, opposite, oval, **blue-grey without stalks**, mature leaves deep **blue-green**, shiny, very long and **thin to 30 cm, slightly curved**, stalked, smelling of camphor if crushed, **tip sharp**. **FLOWERS:** **Buds grey-green, wrinkled, 2.5 cm**, usually 1, rarely 2 or 3, together, the white flowers to **4 cm across**. **FRUIT:** Woody, **half spheres, rough, 3 cm across**, 4-angled, no stalks. Dull black seeds escape from slits.
- Propagation:** Seedlings, direct sowing at site.
- Seed:** No. of seeds per kg: 60,000-400,000.
- treatment:** Not necessary.
- storage:** Seed can be stored for a long time.
- Management:** Coppicing.
- Remarks:** The young leaves of this species have been used to produce an oil used in pharmaceutical products. The wood is hard, heavy and strong, the oil making it termite resistant, and it is often used for telegraph poles. In some places it is liable to attack by beetles. It is a strong competitor for moisture and nutrients and therefore should not be planted with crops.

