



## PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Syzygium hemilamprum* (F. Muell. ex Bailey) Merrill & Perry

GENUS *Syzygium* FAMILY Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Broad leafed lillypilly

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit

The fruit are eaten. It makes a good jam.

## DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows to 20 m tall and spreads to 5 m wide. The stout stem has buttresses. The bark is grey. It has a dense bushy crown. The young shoots are dark red. The leaves are dark green and like an ellipse. They have a blunt tip. The top side of the leaf is glossy, while the underside is dull. There are very few oil glands visible. (These leaf characteristics help distinguish it from *Acmena smithii*.) The leaves are 4-12 cm long and 3-4 cm wide. The edge of the leaf often curves backwards. The flowers are small and white and with a fluffy appearance. They occur on branched flower stems near the ends of branches. The fruit are pale bluish purple berries. They are 1-2 cm across. They are globular in shape. The fruit stalks are round in cross section. The flesh is edible.

## HABITAT

It is a tropical and subtropical tree. It occurs naturally in New South Wales and Queensland in Australia. It also occurs in Papua New Guinea. It prefers a coastal rainforest position with a well-composted soil. It is drought and frost tender although established trees can survive moderate frosts. It needs watering during dry periods and probably benefits from fertiliser. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. Geelong Botanical Gardens. Mt Cootha Botanical Gardens.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

It is grown from fresh seed. Seeds germinate slowly. It can be grown by tip cuttings 10 cm long and taken when growth is slowest.

### Harvesting and Seed Production

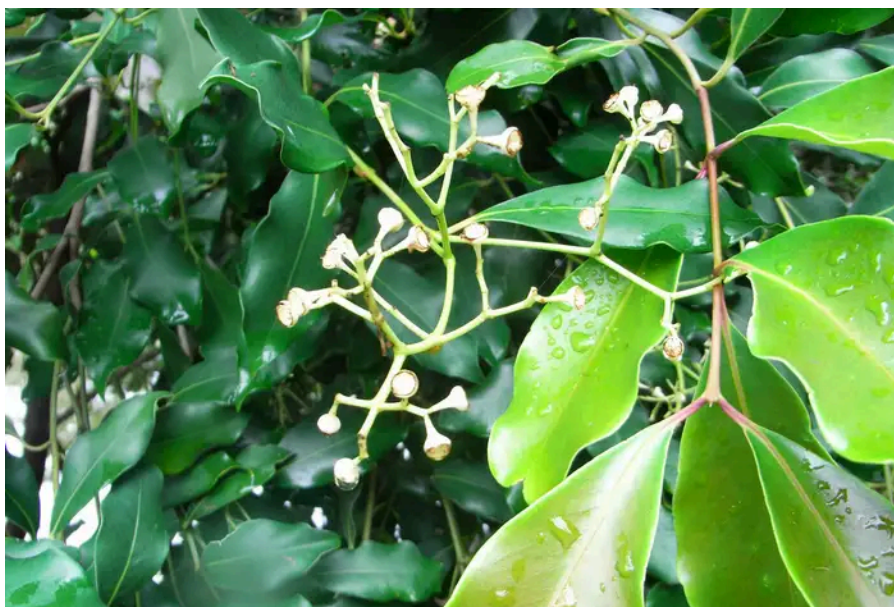
Fruit ripen May to August. (January to September). Large fruited forms can be selected.

## NOTES

There are 15 *Acmena* species. They occur in tropical Asia and Australia.

## PICTURES

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Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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### PROVIDED BY Food Plants International

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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