

# Narrow leaf red ironbark

## *Eucalyptus crebra*

RE Class  
11.11.1



*Ironbark on  
broken ridge*

Ironbark is a medium sized tree with deeply furrowed bark; also the leaves are narrow and tend to droop. Timber is very sought after as it can be used for a number of forest products due to its durability and capacity to be able to last in the ground a long time without any treatment. Narrow leaf red ironbark grows on flats and ridges, likes heavy soil and is very slow growing. Trees can be hard to 'sound' with the back of an axe because of the furrowed grey or black thick bark. Hitting the tree with blade of an axe between the fissures of the bark can give a better idea of the quality of tree. Growth between the fissures on the bark usually means the tree is in good health, which indicates that it has a good chance of producing a quality log.

White flowers occur May to January, trees are sort after by apiarist as these trees are a major pollen and nectar source for European bees.

Trees with large lumps can have fungus defect, also fire scars at the base of the tree can be affected by doze, which is a fungus that can affect the whole of the tree. Termite signs are also hard to see because of the bark. Branches that are broken off and don't have holes or termite activity indicates that the tree is of good quality. Trees with visible holes of 10 cm or more 2 m above the ground must be used for habitat or recruitment trees.

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*Ironbark fencing timber*



Trees with a short log length, because the position of branches and the fork of the tree restrict the future growth, can be harvested as fencing timber to let better quality stems grow. Trees not required for future forests, and not needed for recruitment or habitat trees can be thinned by stem injection. Some trees on poor ridges can produce fence posts also mine props can be cut from trees with a small diameter, this practice is more viable than paying to have a ringbarking gang thin trees.

*Yards made from ironbark*

