



Factsheet

Commercial revegetation opportunities for the Western Australian wheatbelt Sugar Gum

Factsheet 36/2000

Sugar gum (*Eucalyptus cladocalyx*) is a tall to large tree (greater than 25m) which grows on well drained soils. Sugar gum produces timber suitable for general construction and furniture.

Benefits and commercial prospects:

- A hard, heavy timber that is used for posts and poles, firewood and general construction. It is also used as a furniture timber.
- It is widely in agroforestry systems in south-eastern Australia.

Sites:

- Annual rainfall - approximately 380 - 650 mm.
- Suited to many types of soils - including deep sands and ironstone gravels that are common in the wheatbelt. It is generally a fast growing species.
- Will not tolerate waterlogging.

Problems/Limitations:

- Fresh coppice regrowth can be toxic to stock.
- Information on provenances suitable for commercial use is limited.

Other issues:

- Establishes well with direct seeding and from seedlings.
- Not native to WA -potential environmental weed (low risk).
- Coppices readily when cut.

Information Sources:

- Agriculture WA Revegetation Advisers - contact your local AGWEST office for details.
- CALM seedling nurseries (and other nurseries) will provide advice on species and site selection and the establishment of trees. CALM's nurseries are located in Manjimup and Narrogin.
- CALM Timber Technology. 64 Weir Road, Harvey WA 6220. Ph: (08) 9729 1913, Fax: (08) 9729 2063.

References and websites

- Boland et al (1985). Forest Trees of Australia. CSIRO.
- Bootle, K.R. (1988). Wood in Australia: Types, properties and uses. McGraw-Hill.
- REX96 Revegetation Software. It can be ordered by calling 1800 244 060 (A South Australian direct order service).
- Farm Forestry Advisory Service (FFAS) Treenote Series - Available from AGWEST and Department of CALM offices. Also on the web at:
<http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/programs/srd/farmforestry/index.htm>. Although there is not a specific Treenote on Sugar Gum, there are a number on general aspects of farm forestry such as pruning and thinning, and preserving round posts on farms.

Using these factsheets

These commercial opportunity factsheets can be used to provide a quick appraisal of a particular species, product or industry. They show key information to assist farmers and their advisors in evaluating a particular species or issue.

This Factsheet was produced by the Revegetation on Farms Project within the Sustainable Rural Development Program of Agriculture Western Australia. This project contributes to the Western Australian Salinity Strategy.

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Recommendations were current at the time of preparation of the original publication.

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