**Platanus x acerifolia**

London Plane Tree

A large, rounded canopy, deciduous tree commonly planted in Australian streets and public landscapes. Leaves matt, mid to dark green with 3-5 shallow lobes turning yellow to brown in autumn. Spherical fruit clusters in 2s. Bark olive-green to cream, flaky, striking in the winter. Adapts to moist soils. Deep well drained moist soils will provide for vigorous performance with rapid growth and dense canopies. Formative pruning to develop good structure. ‘Bloodgood’ is less susceptible to anthracnose and supposedly tolerant of compaction, drought and is rapid growing. ‘Columbia’, ‘Liberty’ and ‘Yarwood’ varieties resistant to powdery mildew and anthracnose. The pollen & early foliage growth of this species is known to cause allergies in some people.

**height x width (m)** 15-25 x 15-20

**origin** Hybrid

**growth rate** Moderate

**flower colour** Deep red, inconspicuous

**flowering time** Spring

**shade tolerance** Full sun or partial shade

**drought** Grows satisfactorily with no obvious signs of stress in an average summer.

**low soil oxygen** Prefers well drained moist soils.

**compacted soils** Good; widely planted in urban areas and generally grows satisfactorily

**pest + disease** Generally not prone to insects that cause obvious damage to foliage – resistant to anthracnose, susceptible to canker stain and leaf scorch.

**root disturbance** Evidence of successful recovery from root damage in urban landscapes, aggressive surface roots, and mature trees will lift paving.

**advanced** Low incidence of problem from planting out as industry standard, 2m plus container grown trees.

**limb shear** Few if any reports of the shedding of major limbs in urban landscape plantings.

**weed risk** No records of species becoming established in urban landscapes by self-sown seed.

**under powerlines** Suitable. Naturally open branching structure that is suited to pruning into an open centre tree under wires. Limit use under wires.

**habitat value** Not known to provide a specific food or habitat resource for native fauna.