

# Melaleuca linariifolia

## Flax Leaf Paperbark, Snow in Summer

Tall shrub or small evergreen tree, dense broadly domed canopy, often multi trunked.

Linear grey-green leaves.

Dense spikes of fluffy, honey-scented cream flowers cover the plant in summer giving rise to its common name.

Bark a beige-cream, papery and soft, peeling in thick sheets.

Species occurs in low-lying areas and is adaptable to many soil types.

Dense low foliage may cause visibility problems on nature strips; formative pruning from an early age would prevent this.

An easily ignitable tree, it should not be planted in fire danger zones or high vandalism zones.



**height x width (m)** 6-10 x 3-8

**origin** New South Wales, Queensland

**growth rate** Slow to moderate

**flower colour** Cream

**flowering time** Summer

**shade tolerance** Full sun to part shade

**drought** High tolerance, grows satisfactorily with no obvious signs of stress in a dry summer

**low soil oxygen** High tolerance occurs naturally in swamps and along watercourses.

**compacted soils** High tolerance widely planted in urban areas and generally grows satisfactorily.

**pest + disease** May be subject to web worm and sooty mould infestations

**root disturbance** Has a moderate tolerance, evidence of successful recovery from root damage in urban landscapes. Can cause damage to drains.

**advanced** Not readily available.

**limb shear** Few reports of the shedding of major limbs in urban landscape plantings, more common in mature trees.

**weed risk** No records of species becoming established in urban landscapes by self-sown seed. If a plant is to be removed, stump should be poisoned or removed as regrowth normally occurs.

**under powerlines** Suitable. Small size likely to be below overhead services when mature regenerates growth well from pruned limbs under wires.

**habitat value** Food or habitat resource for native fauna – bees and butterflies.