



EUCALYPTUS

(*Eucalyptus* species)

Many different species of Eucalyptus trees have been imported into Jamaica and the Caribbean from their native Australia. Most are tall upright trees, some species reaching heights of 24 m.

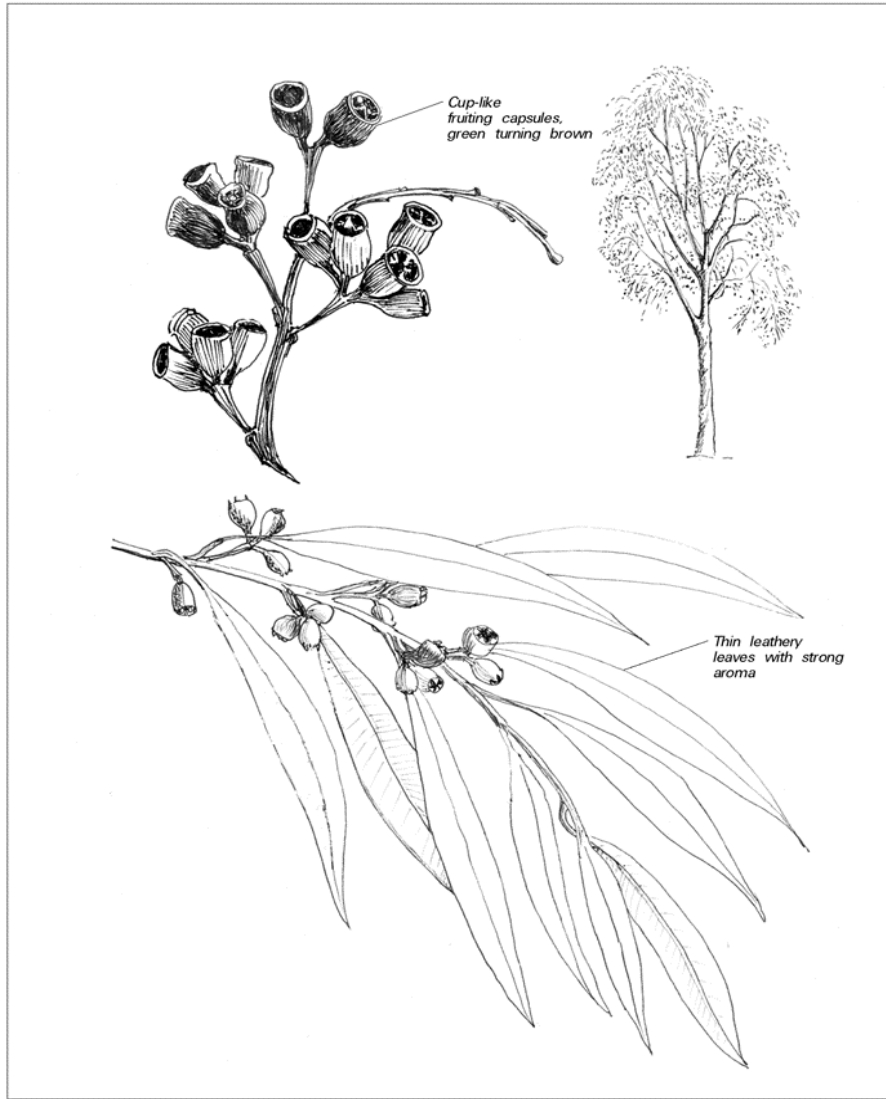
The leaves are long, thin and leathery, varying in length from 9 - 12 cm in different species. They have small cup-like fruiting capsules, divided into sections, green when flowering, turning brown and woody as the seeds are formed. The flowers are almost invisible within the green cups. When ripe the seeds fall out as the cups are blown by the wind.

Most are found in the hills, but some species grow at sea-level. They are conspicuous with their tall grey trunks, sometimes 'screwed' and their delicate foliage.

They are fast growing, resistant to insects and regrow quickly after fire. Medicinal eucalyptus oil can be extracted from the leaves of some species. If you pick up leaves that have recently fallen and crush them, you can smell the aroma of the oil.

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Family: Myrtaceae	Species: <i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	Author:
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Height: 12-24m	Habitat: Mostly hills, sea level-1000m	Persistence: Evergreen
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