

Tristania conferta

tris-TANE-ee-uh
kon-FUR-tuh

(Tristania – Brisbane Box)

(Lophostemon conferta)

(Brisbane, Pink or Australian Brush Box)

Myrtaceae (Myrtle family)

Origin: Eastern Australia

Species characteristics:

Form – Evergreen. Moderate growth reaching a height of 60' or more, with a spread to 40'. More narrow and upright when young, the crown becomes broad and rounded when mature.

Trunk – Trunk and limbs have rusty brown bark that peels away to show smooth, lighter bark underneath.

Foliage – Leathery leaves are 4 – 6" long, 1 ½ - 2 ½" wide, simple, ovate-lanceolate or elliptical. Bright green in color, tending to cluster at branch ends.

Flowers/fruit – Fragrant flowers in clusters of 3 – 7 in summer, ½ - ¾" across, white to creamy. Fruit is woody capsule ½" in diameter, similar to eucalypt.

Cultivars – "Variegata" has strong yellow green leaf markings.

No significant pest problems known at this time.

Site suitability:

Sunset zones – 19 – 24. Sensitive to frost when young.

Clearances - Suitable for 5' minimum parkways, medians or cutouts.

Good for street sides, medians, parks and lawns.

Culture considerations:

Tolerates all soil types and high alkalinity, and from seacoast exposure to high desert conditions. Responds to water in well-drained soils when young, drought resistant when established. Sometimes needs tip pruning when young, to develop more fullness. Chlorosis may be a problem.

Comments, notes:

