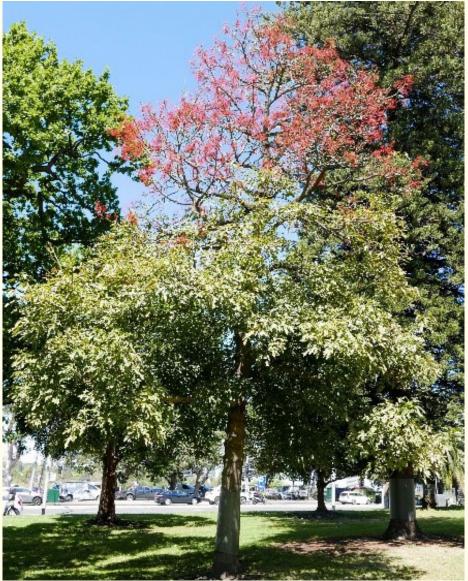
Illawarra Flame Tree Brachychiton acerifolius



Images: Treelogic P/L ©

Origin

Occurs in NSW rainforests, Illawarra district northwards.

Characteristics

Deciduous to semi-deciduous tree. Clusters of dense, red bellshaped flowers in late spring when tree is leafless. Leaves glossy green, shape very variable but generally either entire or 3-5 lobed with blades 10-25cm long. Fruit capsules large, leathery, boat-shaped.

Tolerances

Drought tolerant.



Description

Typical height: 10-12 metres

Typical width: 8-10 metres

Growth rate: Moderate to slow

Typical form: Tall pyramidal tree on stout, tapering trunk. Spreading, often weeping branches.

Facts and Trivia

Indigenous people used fibre from inner bark to make twine for fishing.

Cold Chisel's iconic song 'Flame Trees' refers to this species; Don Walker being inspired by the tree's vibrant colour and prominence in and around Grafton, northern NSW.

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