

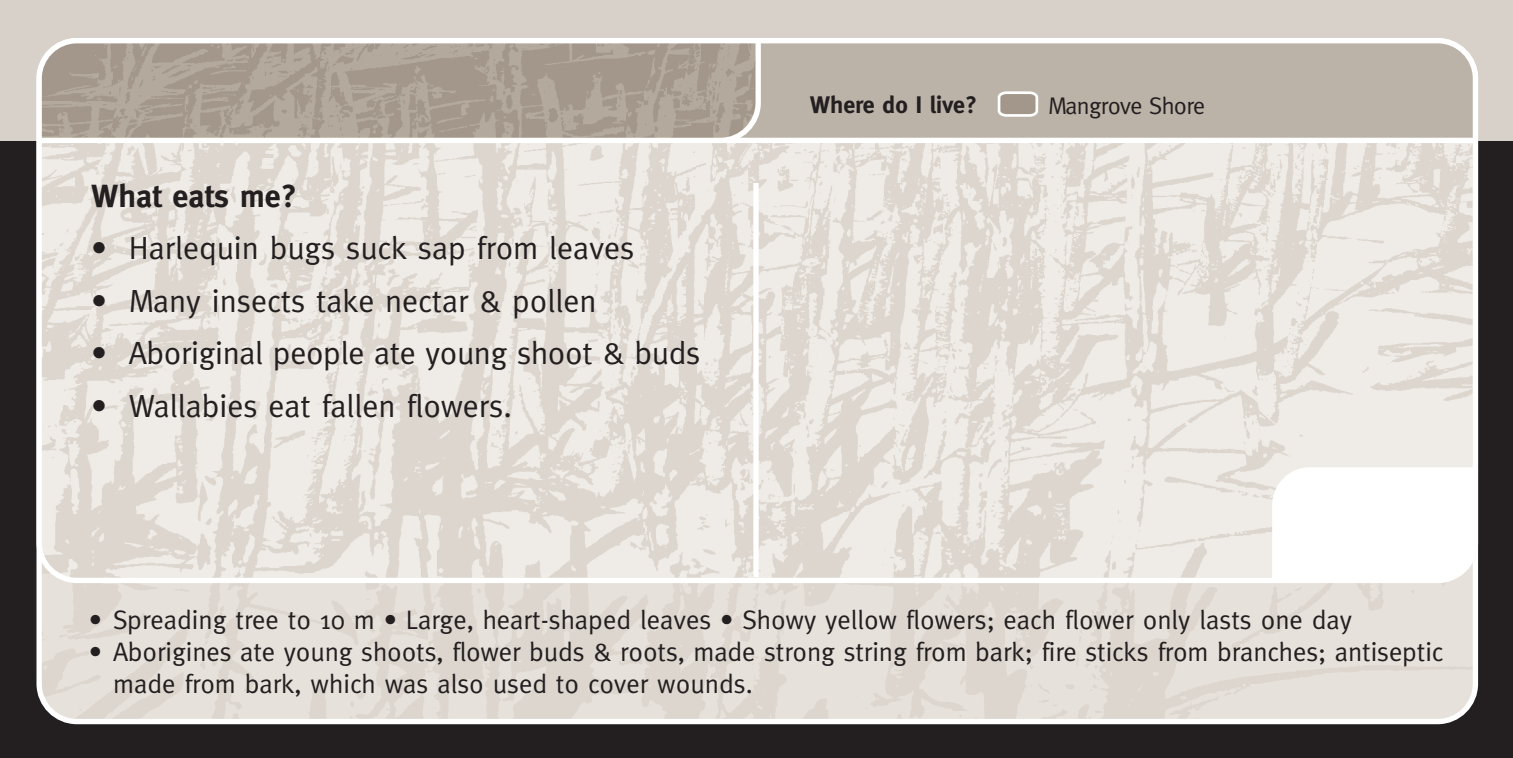
Cottonwood

Hibiscus tiliaceus



Adaptation to environment

- Leathery leaves conserve moisture
- Colourful flowers attract pollinating insects
- Seeds need fire & soaking to germinate, so germinates after fire & being washed away on tide
- Fibrous wood & bark provide flexibility & strength against wind damage
- Very tolerant of salt.



Where do I live?

Mangrove Shore

What eats me?

- Harlequin bugs suck sap from leaves
- Many insects take nectar & pollen
- Aboriginal people ate young shoot & buds
- Wallabies eat fallen flowers.

- Spreading tree to 10 m
- Large, heart-shaped leaves
- Showy yellow flowers; each flower only lasts one day
- Aborigines ate young shoots, flower buds & roots, made strong string from bark; fire sticks from branches; antiseptic made from bark, which was also used to cover wounds.