

Orange Mangrove

Bruguiera gymorrhiza



Adaptation to environment

- Tough, waxy leaves withstand light & heat extremes
- Seeds germinate on plant & develop cigar-shaped stem-root to 15 cm; fruit floats vertically & settles with stem-root planted in mud & growing tip in air
- ‘Knee roots’ elevate mangroves above unstable sediments; support against wind & waves; get oxygen from air; absorb sea water but exclude most of salt.

Where do I live?

Mangrove Shore

What eats me?

- Caterpillars eat living leaves
- Prawns, crabs, snails eat dropped decomposing leaves
- Friarbird, honeyeaters eat pollen & nectar; 'exploding flowers' spread pollen by spraying honey-eaters with it when they poke their beaks in

- Aboriginal people ate fruits after washing, pounding & baking
- Shipworms (*Teredo* sp.) eat dead wood.

- Small tree to 10 m
- Dark, glossy, green leaves, 10 – 25 cm, clustered on tips of branches
- Orange-red flower, strongly scented
- Protruding 'knee roots'.