

Eucalyptus salubris

Gimlet

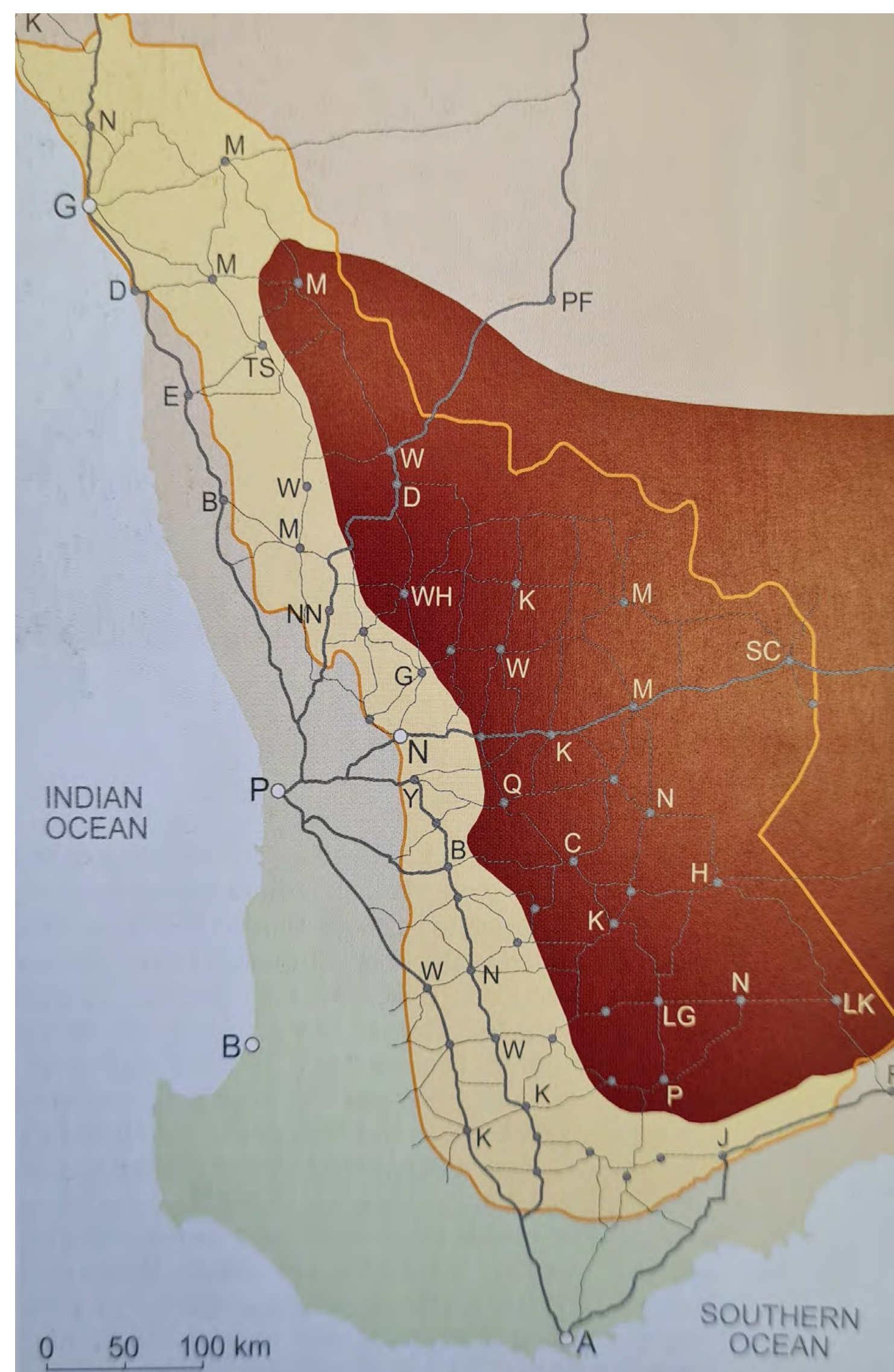
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Gimlet near Wyalkatchem

Gimlet is a standout WA Wheatbelt tree with its beautiful bronze fluted bark. It has been dubbed the 'sexy gum' when it won Australian Eucalypt of the Year 2021

Description: Gimlet grows as a mallet, usually from 4 to 15 metres (13.1 to 49.2 ft) high, but sometimes as low as 2 to 24 m (6.6 to 78.7 ft) and does not form a lignotuber. It has smooth, strongly fluted colourful trunks and stems ranging from grey to greenish and reddish brown. Adult leaves are narrow, very glossy and green. Buds are oval shaped with short flat stalks. It has white or cream flowers blooming from September to March. The flowers are arranged in groups of seven in the leaf axils on stout, unbranched peduncles.



Distribution: Gimlet has a wide distribution, occurring throughout the Avon Wheatbelt and Coolgardie biogeographic regions, with outliers as far west as Perth and as far south as Esperance. It is found from Mullewa in the north-west extending to the south-east near Pingrup and extending east and north as far as Norseman and Zanthus to the western part of the Great Victoria Desert and north to around Laverton.

It grows where the relief is generally gentle slopes. It grows in a range of soils: red loams, red clay loams, yellow and red sand, and laterite (its preference for rich loamy soils have resulted in large stands of the species being cleared for farmland).

Environmental, social & economic benefits:

- Useful native habitat tree landscape. Drought tolerant and adaptable over many soil types and environments. Produces plenty of viable seed and proves useful in direct seeding projects. Attractive to view in landscape.
- Ecosystem services for farming - Good shade and shelter tree for sheep and cattle in paddocks. Useful as part of a windbreak to help mitigate damaging winds. Helps to cool soil and encourage precipitation.
- Gimlet flowers produce nectar for honey production, pollen has value for apiculture or high tannin content in bark.
- Wood is very dense and useful in flooring, musical instruments and furniture making.



Gimlet woodland A. Keesing



Gimlet bark in late summer



Gimlet near Maya