



# Gum tree

## *Eucalyptus spp*

### About me:

I am a large tree; I can grow up to 200 metres high in my lifetime. My leaves are silvery and aromatic when crushed though not to be used for eating. I have small white flowers which form clusters. I thrive in most soil types and conditions, providing I get plenty of water.

### Where do I come from?

I originally come from Australia, however I can now be found growing all around the world

### How is the bio-fuel produced?

The leaves of the Eucalyptus are dried and then distilled to extract the Eucalyptus oil. This oil then under goes further treatment called transesterification. (Transesterification is the reaction of a fat or oil with an alcohol to form esters and glycerol). Typically alcohol is added to the process to speed up the reaction time as this is a reversible process. This can then be refined or blended with regular diesel.

### How is my energy used?

Combustible fuel: The bio-diesel can be used in diesel cars and research is being carried out for Eucalyptus to be used as aviation fuel.



Image taken by John Tann 2013) Australia



Image taken by Tony Rodd. Sydney Australia



Image taken by Greenfleet Australia



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