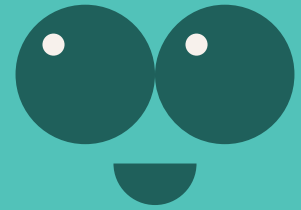


Lidded Cleistocalyx / Water Banyan



Scientific name : *Cleistocalyx nervosum*



English name : Lidded Cleistocalyx / Water Banyan

Family : Myrtaceae

Native Distribution : Native species

Origin : Guangdong, Guangxi, and Yunnan

Growth habits : Evergreen trees

Leaf : Opposite, the leaf stalks have grooves on the lower surface, the leaves are oblong to elliptical, slightly leathery, and the base is broadly wedge-shaped to nearly round.

Flower : Bisexual flowers, often clustered in 2-3, with numerous stamens, and the flowers are in white, softly hairy, spherical clusters.

Fruit : Broadly ovoid, turning from green to red, purple, or black when ripe.

Tree characteristics : Commonly found in streams and marshes. Highly tolerant of windy environments but cannot withstand dry conditions. It can grow up to 15 meters tall and develops a taproot when mature. It has thick gray-brown bark that flakes off in chunks and exhibits vertical fissures on its stems.

Flowering period : May to June

Fruit period : August to September

Ecology : Water Banyan's flowers have a unique fragrance that attracts insects. Common butterfly species such as the Green Triangle, the Common Duffer, and the Orange Tip often visit water oak. Additionally, its colorful berries are highly favored by birds.