



Sharing the benefits of trees is our ambition.  
 Developing great trees is our passion.

With a strong service culture, Speciality Trees offer extended horticultural assistance and expertise in the sourcing and selection of suitable project material across all sizes as well as site consultation and provenance specific contract growing if required. Whether part of a contract grow situation or purchased on-spec, our material will be strong, true to type, healthy and pruned appropriately for long-term performance and sustainability.

Information transparency is the key to purchase and in trusting your supplier. Growing to the Australian Standard AS2303 ensures we question ourselves at every turn and openly discuss the process and methods by which the tree you have selected has been produced. Underpinning all of this is our existing accreditation standards, there to reassure you of our best practise methods and industry professionalism.

Visits to the nursery are always welcome and encouraged to view our quality stock and to discuss your needs in more detail. Our office hours are 8am-4pm Monday to Friday and by appointment on Saturday morning. Visits after hours can also be arranged by contacting the office on 03 9796 8308.



**Speciality Trees Pty Ltd**

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**Australian Standard AS2303 – Tree Stock for Landscape Use provides technical above and below the ground information to evaluate the quality of tree material grown by production nurseries.**

**It is provided as a guideline and encourages purchasers to be more knowledgeable about the mature tree they are buying directly from the production nursery who grew it.**

Introduced in 2015, excitement around the development and release of AS2303 has also been met with some conjecture about its worth, as not all tree species can comply with its presentation requirements.

Trees across the same genus and species will naturally vary in terms of specific attributes, height and width. While processes are being developed to provide uniformity, genetic variability is a normal, natural occurrence. Variability in processes and in seasonal or climatic conditions can have a significant effect on a tree's growth resulting in changes in its presentation, one year to the next.

**Educating people on the importance of best practice processes in the production of quality material is the Standard's greatest benefit and the purchaser's greatest tool to buying well.**

**The challenge with AS2303 is that it has to be broad enough to cover as many trees as possible, but narrow enough to ensure that you get a quality product.**



### We like to call it Innovation

As horticulturists we are conscious of the need for innovation through the trialling of new products and processes.

Innovation comes from observation and knowledge which over time can result in the development of new or improved material for commercial market release. The biggest risk AS2303 poses is a depletion of 'unique' specimens not deemed acceptable because they don't fit the parameters set.

Speciality Trees is proud of its material consistency but also its ability to recognise new material potential. For us, AS2303 is a welcome dimension to our business, not an imposition, as it opens up discussion between the buyer and the seller on not only how a quality tree is grown but on the attributes sought for new residential lines sometimes based on slight genetic differences.

With a balanced view and transparent processes, both the buyer and seller are in a better position.

We believe AS2303 will drive growers towards new and better processes on each and every species they grow, as well as highlight those innovative nurseries already growing to quality production standards.

### Accreditation provides peace of mind

Accredited nurseries are conscious of quality. NIASA (Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme Australia), EcoHort & BioSecure HACCP are national accreditation schemes with the purpose of reassuring the buyer of industry best practice. They also highlight growers already investing time and money in quality, processes and product performance.

Speciality Trees prides itself in producing superior material focusing on a tree's structure and root ball. Being NIASA accredited means that we are accountable with audits and strict process compliance. With recent concern over bio-security issues, NIASA also provides a safety net against the spread of unwanted weeds, pests and disease. Our environmental stewardship and commitment to the wellbeing of the community we live in is covered off by the inclusion of EcoHort certification.

**NIASA accredited and EcoHort® certified, our material is produced with the highest respect to environmental standards.**



**As a NIASA accredited nursery we have ongoing accountability in the following key production areas:**

- **Quality of stock entering the nursery.** Good feeder stock is vital; we are particular about the quality of all material entering the nursery for growing on.
- **Regular formative pruning.** Pruning is carried out to promote health and a strong branching structure. Early removal of problematic branches assures the tree will have a single dominant stem and a crown requiring less pruning when established.
- **Regular root pruning.** Root pruning is vital and is conducted every time potting occurs. The ability of the tree to thrive post planting is clearly linked to the tree's root structure and its ability to anchor and support itself in soil.
- **Tailored growing media.** After trials and observations over many years, the importance of a high quality mix tailored to the requirements of each species is vital, as is the purchase from accredited potting mix manufacturers.
- **Irrigation management.** 100% reliant on our own water capture, our irrigation systems are constantly reviewed to maximise best use and minimise plant stress. Recent changes are providing a water saving of up to 10% by delivering more considered timing, volume and frequency.
- **Integrated Pest Management (IPM).** Our IPM system has been in place now for over a decade with outstanding success. Ongoing training provides a shared understanding of the need to keep an ecological balance within the nursery. Select members of staff are responsible for areas of nutrition, pest, weed and disease management giving Speciality Trees a holistic approach to plant health.

