

## Whitsunday Bottle Tree: *Brachychiton compactus*



Whitsunday  
Catchment  
**Landcare**

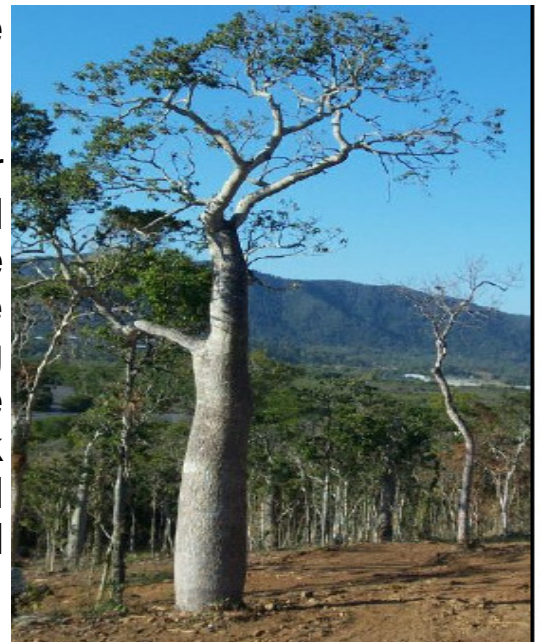
The Whitsunday Bottle Tree is a iconic Whitsundays species.

It is found only within 40kms of Airlie Beach and **no-where else in the world. It is listed as 'rare' under the *Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulation 1994*. *Brachychiton compactus* grows in vine thickets on foot hills and coastal areas.**



Unfortunately, it is coming under increasing pressure from development. Whitsunday Regional Council has currently surveyed the distribution and abundance of the Whitsunday Bottle Tree to better manage the development on sites where the tree occurs.

The name *compactus* refers to its smaller form compared to the other bottle trees and the seed pod is smaller compared to Flame Trees and Bottle trees in general. The leaves are palmate (5-lobed) when young but become simple (non-lobed) as the tree matures. The flowers are white with pink spots and are followed by boat shaped pods that contain up to ten peanut sized seeds covered in irritating hairs.



Whitsunday Catchment Landcare volunteers propagate the Whitsunday Bottle Tree from locally collected seed at the Bushcare nursery. This centre is supported by Whitsunday Regional Council.

