

Illawarra Flame Tree *Brachychiton acerifolius*

When to look:

Leaves appear from summer to autumn, flowers appear in spring and summer, seed pods appear after flowering

Deciduous tree that grows up to 35 m in height

Bright coral-red waxy bell-shaped flowers

NOTE: The hairs within the seed pod can irritate the skin and are easily inhaled. It is not advised to handle any open seed pods.

Dark-brown, leathery seed pods that are about 10 cm in length

Similar species:

Poinciana (*Delonix regia*): has feathery and fern-like leaves, doesn't have the bell-shaped flowers, and has larger seed pods (20 - 70 cm long).

Smooth, oval-shaped leaves with lobes

Images courtesy of Doug Beckers (tree) and Dan Anderson (leaf and seed pods)