

# Northern Silky Oak – *Cardwellia sublimis*

## Wood Appearance

**Colour** – The heartwood is pink to brown in colour. Sapwood is usually almost white.

**Grain** – Moderately coarse textured and variable. Quarter sawn timber shows the decorative oak grain to best effect.

## Wood Properties

**Density** – 560 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

**Durability** – Class 3 – Moderately resistance to decay when fully exposed to the weather, clear of the ground and well drained with free air circulation. Not recommended for in ground use.

**Hardness** – Soft (rated 5 on a 6 class scale) in relation to indentation and ease of working with hand tools.

## Identification Features

**Sapwood** – Creamy white in colour

**Heartwood** – Pink to pinkish-brown in colour

**Texture** – Coarse and irregular, a broad ray figure on quarter sawn surfaces, grain straight

## Wood Structure

**Growth rings** – Indistinct

**Vessels** – Large, numerous, solitary or in short tangential hoops between the rays. Tyloses absent, but occasionally vessels are filled with whitish deposits or deposits of red coloured gum.

**Parenchyma** – Abundant, aliform and confluent, including vessels between rays, forming loops, generally concave outwards; an occasional short tangential apotracheal band.

**Rays** – Of two distinct kinds (a) broad to very broad, plainly visible without a lens on all surfaces, and (b) fine, indistinct even under hand lens.

## Other Features

**Burning Splinter Test** – A match size splinter burns to charcoal

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