Melaleuca thyoides
Salt-buster myrtle

Inflorescence
Fruits
**Melaleuca thyoides**

*Salt-buster myrtle*

**Plant features**

**Growth form**  Erect or spreading shrub, often many stemmed 1-5m tall,

**Leaves**  The mature leaves are olive green, around 0.5mm long, diamond to egg shaped, scale like, overlapping and spirally arranged along branchlets.

**Flowers**  The inflorescence usually appears as oblong spikes along the branchlets 15–40mm long. The flowers are white to cream and appear from Sep–Dec.

**Fruits**  The woody seed capsules are cup shaped, and appear as spikes. Each capsule is 4–6mm wide. The seed is minute, mixed with chaff and is held for extended periods in the capsule.

**Bark**  Papery bark on the lower branches and trunk with rough grey brown bark on young stems.

**Distribution**

Found throughout the Avon catchment and extends from near Morawa to east of Esperance.

**Zone, habitat**

Grows on a variety of soil types on floodways of swamps, creeks, river and other saline winter wet depressions.

**Additional information**

An easily grown mid storey shrub that is useful on a range of saline waterbodies. Very salt tolerant and moderately waterlogging and drought tolerant. Plants can be grown from tubestock or direct seeded. Its flowers are an important food source for a range of fauna while it's dense nature provides ideal nesting sites and shelter. Its shallow roots stabilise wetland soils, trap sediment and slow the speed of floodwaters thereby decreasing erosion.