On a New Species of *Melaleuca* (Family *Myrtaceae*) from Southern Queensland.

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(One Text-figure.)

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**MELALEUCA GROVEANA** sp. nov.

A tree with rather close, flaky, slightly compressed fibrous bark of a light brownish colour, the very young shoots silky hairy, otherwise glabrous in all parts. Branches slightly angular when young but becoming more or less terete with age. Leaves linear-lanceolate 2|-4 J cm. (1-1 J in.) long, 3-6 mm. (1^-|2-|2 in.) broad, slightly mucronate, tri-nerved, the two lateral nerves forming an intramarginal vein about 1 mm. (J line) distance from the margin, secondary nerves rather oblique, not always discernible, oil glands plainly visible on both sides in dried specimens. Flowering spike terminating the branchlets, about 2 cm. (f in.) long, with 8-14 flowers, the rachis and bracts when very young finely pubescent but all parts soon glabrous. Bracts 3-5 mm. (1^-|2-|2 in.) long, with a prominent central nerve. Calyx-tube glabrous about 2^-|4^-|2 mm. (about 1^-|2 lines long) 1^-|2 mm. (nearly 1 line) diameter, crowned with 5 brownish sub-orbicular lobes about 1^-|2 mm (nearly 1 line) in diameter. Petals purplish when in bud; probably becoming creamy-white slightly tinged with purple when older but not seen in a fresh state, about twice the length of the calyx lobes. Stamens about 4 mm. (2 lines) long, creamy white, the filaments arranged in five bundles on short claws, the claw not exceeding 2 mm. long. Style from 3 to 4 mm. long (1^-|2-|2 lines) long, stigma simple. Ovary pubescent, 3-celled. Fruits orbicular or nearly so, with a slightly contracted orifice, 7-8 mm. (3^-|4-|4 lines) diameter when fully matured, the valves rather deeply sunken.

Text-figure.
Hab.—"Top of a high dry volcanic ridge near Edenvale Railway Station, Nanango District," Queensland, collected by C. H. Grove (No. 132), September, 1919.

In systematic position the new species comes closest to *M. Deanei* F. Muell., and the fruits are almost identical with some specimens at present roughly grouped under that species, but as typical specimens of *M. Deanei* have a woolly rhachis and the calyx tube is also more or less woolly it seems wise to keep them distinct; the rhachis and calyx lobes, except when very young, appear always to be quite glabrous in the proposed new species. It has also close affinities with *M. leiocarpa* F. Muell., but this has smaller leaves and fruits. In general appearance the herbarium specimens very closely resemble those of *Callistemon rugulosus DC*. *flavo-virens* Cheel., but the filaments are distinctly united at the base and grouped into five distinct bundles, so that it must be regarded as distinct from that plant.

Specimens of timber show the sap-wood to be of a pale pink colour and the heart-wood to be very dark dull red, close-grained and hard. It would probably be very durable.

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