

Plant Adaptations to Fire | Spotto Card

Seeds released after fire



Seeds can be protected in hard cones that open after fire when it is safe for the seeds to fall out.

Serotiny is the name given to plants that rely on fire alone for seeds to be released. This is because it has evolved to reproduce when there is little competition and the soil is nutrient rich from the ash.

Epicormic growth



Special tissue beneath bark is adapted to sprout after fire due to changes in the plant's hormones.

Encouraging fire!



Many **Eucalyptus** species encourage fire: they drop bark and release flammable oils. This also encourages fire to move quickly through the landscape, limiting the amount of damage it does.

Lignotubers



Lignotubers are root swellings that develop at ground level which store food for the plant. This allows new growth to sprout if the tree is damaged.

Thick Bark



Under the protection of thick bark, living tissue will not have direct contact with fire, increasing the plant's chance of survival.