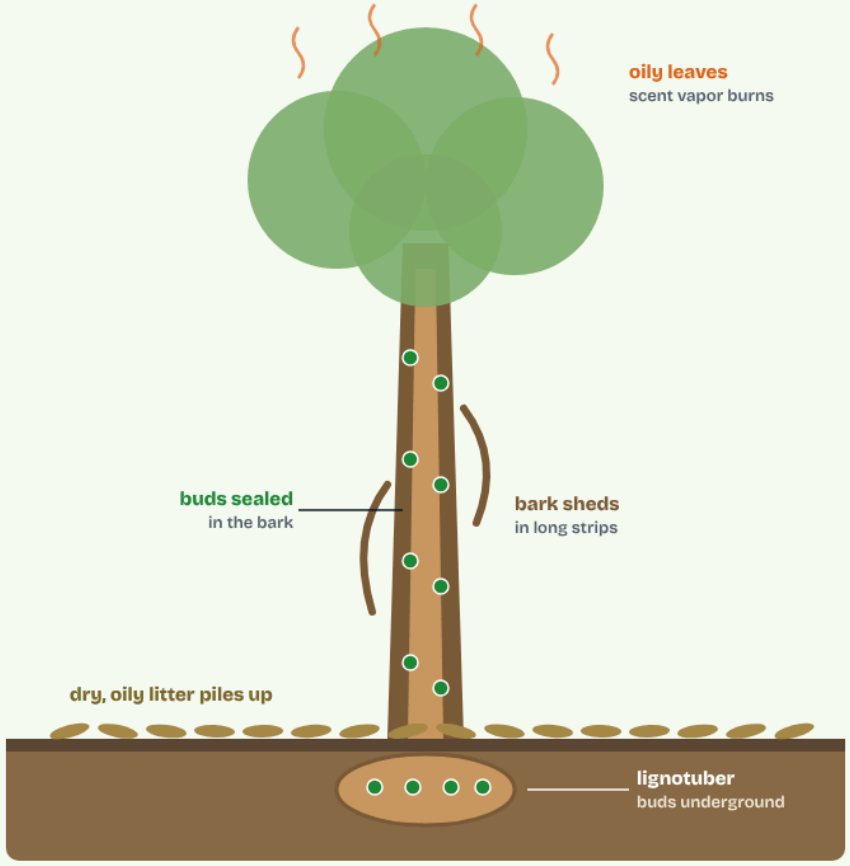
That is why

Why do eucalyptus trees burn so hard and still survive?

The outside is fuel the tree can lose; the buds that regrow it are sealed in bark and underground.

A Fuel outside, buds inside



B Three hiding places

1 In the trunk bark

Buds buried in thick bark resprout after intense fires, even when the crown burns.

2 In tiny twigs

Reserve buds hide inside the smallest branches for quick recovery after mild fires.

3 Underground

A lignotuber, a woody swelling at the stem base, holds dormant buds that sprout after fire.

Mountain ash: thick lower bark up to about 8 m shields the base.

C After the fire

1 From the trunk

Green shoots push out through blackened bark.

2 From the base

The lignotuber sends up new stems.

3 A cleared field

Thin-barked rivals are gone and sunlight reaches the ground.

The fire burned the casing.

Let the outside burn, keep the buds sealed.

Free for learning thatiswhy.com

Free for learning, teaching and research. Please credit: That Is Why, thatiswhy.com

Diagram: https://thatiswhy.com/diagrams/why-eucalyptus-survives-fire/ · Full guide: https://thatiswhy.com/why-eucalyptus-trees-want-to-burn/