

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer B Gray, Atherton, Qld



Fruit and leaves. Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Department of Botany, photographer RA Howard, China



Trunk. Australian Plant Image Index, photographers RG & FJ Richardson, Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Vic



Tree. Australian Plant Image Index, Murray Fagg, Nimbin to Kyogle Road

## Common name

Camphor laurel

## Family

Lauraceae

## Where found

**Forest, woodland**, pastures, near old habitations, roadsides, and along streams. Coastal north from Jervis Bay. Ranges north of Berry.

## Notes

**Introduced** tree to 30 m high. Fruit fleshy. Bark greyish brown, rough, scaly, flaky, or fissured, with a camphor odour. Young branchlets cylindrical, hairless, green or reddish-green. Leaves smelling of camphor when rubbed, **alternating** up the stems or clustered in pseudowhorls, 4.5-11 cm long, 20-60 mm wide, tips with an abrupt long point, upper surface glossy green, lower surface **glaucous**, sometimes becoming green and slightly glossy in older leaves. Leaf buds enclosed in distinctive overlapping **scales** when young. Flowers whitish, greenish-white or pale yellowish, with 6 '**petals**' each 1-3 mm long. Flowers in branched clusters. Flowering mostly spring-summer. Fruit shiny black to purplish-black, at first waxy, globular, 6-10 mm in diameter, seated on a distinctive cup-shaped structure. Fruit ripe Apr-June.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Cinnamomum~camphora> (accessed 7 January, 2021)

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