

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers. Australian Plant Image Index, Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants Key, photographer B Jago



Fruit and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants Key, photographer unknown

Common name

Northern Laurel, Rib-fruited Pepperberry

Family

Lauraceae

Where found

Planted, sometimes a garden **escape**. Coast, ranges, and tablelands, north from Jervis Bay. Occasionally elsewhere.

Occurs naturally in Queensland and the Northern Territory.

Notes

Introduced tree to 30 m high. Fruit fleshy. Base of the trunk sometimes buttressed. Bark grey to brownish, finely fissured longitudinally, sometimes flaky. Young stems **fluted**, or cylindrical, with **lenticels**, densely hairy with brownish or rusty hairs, becoming hairless. Leaves aromatic when rubbed, **alternating** up the stems, 4–24.5 cm long, 25–135 mm wide, upper surface glossy, lower surface green or slightly **glaucous**, hairy when young, becoming almost hairless. Flowers unpleasantly perfumed, brownish or cream to greenish, tubular, the tube 1–1.8 mm long, 1.3–1.5 mm wide, with 6 '**petals**', each 1.4–1.9 mm long. Flower clusters usually longer than the leaves. Fruit black, globose to oval or pear shaped, 12–18 mm long, ribbed when dry.

Description based on Flora of Australia Online:

<https://profiles.ala.org.au/opus/foa/profile/Cryptocarya%20hypospodia> (accessed 10 February 2021)

and on Australian Tropical **Rainforest** Plants:

https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/text/entities/cryptocarya_hypospodia.htm (accessed 10 February 2021)

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