**Acrotriche baileyana** (Domin) J.M.Powell

**Family:**
**Ericaceae**


**Stem**
Usually flowers and fruits as a shrub 2-4 m tall.

**Leaves**
Leaf blades about 13-30 x 5-9 mm, petioles short, about 3 mm long. Leaf blades almost white on the underside. Venation almost longitudinal and parallel, the veins arising at the base and radiating. Midrib absent. Twigs clothed in brownish hairs.

**Flowers**
Flower buds completely enclosed by a series of overlapping bracts. Each corolla lobe with an erect tuft of hairs near the apex.

**Fruit**
Calyx persistent at the base of the fruit and style persistent at the apex. Fruits depressed globular, about 3-4 x 2-3 mm. Endocarp hard with many fibrous strands on the outer surface, seeds 1-3 or more, each about 2 x 1 mm. Embryo about 1 mm long. Cotyledons small, located at one end of a long straight embryo and no wider than the radicle.

**Seedlings**
Cotyledons narrowly oblong-elliptic, about 5-6 x 1 mm, petioles very short. Venation obscure, almost 3-veined. Cotyledons longer and wider than the first leaves. Hypocotyl square in transverse section. Stem clothed in short whitish hairs. First leaves with longitudinally parallel venation. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade linear, about 5-6 mm long, shorter than the cotyledons, petiole absent. Venation longitudinal and parallel with three veins more prominent than the rest. Margin clothed in teeth-like hairs. Seed germination time 325 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**
Endemic to NEQ, restricted to Mt Bartle Frere, the Bellenden Ker Range and Walsh's Pyramid. Altitudinal range from 900-1500 m. Restricted to the stunted windswept vegetation on the tops of the mountains on shallow soils derived from granite.

**Synonyms**
*Monotoca baileyana* Domin, *Repertorium Specierum Novarum Regni Vegetabilis* 12 : 98(1913), Type: Queensland, Mount Bartle Frere, F.M. Bailey; holotype: K; isotype: BRI.

**RFK Code**
3058