

# *Actephila venusta* P.I.Forst.

## Family:

Phyllanthaceae

Forster, P.I. (2005) *Austrobaileya* 7: 89. Type: Queensland, Possum Scrub, 8 Dec. 1993, P.I. Forster A, AD, Canb< DNA, K, L, MEL, NSW.

## Stem

Usually flowers and fruits as a shrub about 1-4 m tall.

## Leaves

Leaf blades about 5.5-12 x 3-6 cm, petioles about 0.9-2.2 cm long. Lateral veins forming indistinct loops inside the blade margin.

## Flowers

Flowers about 6-7 mm diam. Pedicels about 10 mm long.

## Fruit

Fruits about 13 mm diam. Seeds about 10 mm diam. Cotyledons rolled, longer and wider than the radicle.

## Seedlings

Cotyledons orbicular or quadrangular, about 25-35 mm diam. Cotyledons 5-veined at the base, base cordate. First pair of leaves sub-opposite, elliptic, margins smooth. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade elliptic to obovate, lateral veins forming indistinct loops inside the blade margins. Stipules triangular, about 1-2 mm long, margins fimbriate. Stem lenticels pale brown, elongated vertically. Leaves produced in whorl-like clusters. Terminal buds enclosed in overlapping bracts. Seed germination time 31 to 59 days.

## Distribution and Ecology

Perhaps endemic to Australia, occurs in NT, CYP and the far northern part of NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 500 m. Grows as an understory plant in well developed rain forest and monsoon forest.

## Synonyms

*Actephila* sp. (Lockerbie WWC 817).

## RFK Code

3512



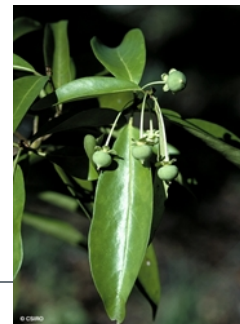
Male flowers. © G. Sankowsky



Leaves and flowers. © G. Sankowsky



Female flower. © G. Sankowsky



Leaves and immature fruit. © CSIRO



Leaves and flowers. © G. Sankowsky



Fruit, side views. © W. T. Cooper



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