

Agathis microstachya J.F.Bailey & C.T.White

Family:

Araucariaceae

Bailey, J.F. & White, C.T. (1916) *Queensland Department of Agriculture and Stock. Botany Bulletin* 18: 14. Type: High lands of ranges in the Cairns, Atherton, and Herberton districts, H.W. Mocatta, District Forest Inspector. holo: BRI; iso: MEL.

Common name:

Black Kauri; Bull Kauri; Kauri; Kauri, Bull; Kauri, Black; Kauri, North Queensland; North Queensland Kauri; Pine, Queensland Kauri; Queensland Kauri Pine; Kauri Pine

Stem

Bark brown and coarsely flaky. Bark exudate sticky, slow and meagre. Resin slightly perfumed.

Leaves

Leaf blades about 2-9 x 0.5-2.5 cm. Veins fine and close, running +/- parallel to the blade margin.

Flowers

Male cones less than 3 cm long, +/- sessile. Scales somewhat flattened at the apex and fitting together in the cone like honeycomb.

Fruit

Cones more than 6 cm diam. each with about 150-220 scales.

Seedlings

Cotyledons lanceolate with a number of veins arising at the same point at the base and continuing +/- parallel to the apex. Cataphylls are produced above the cotyledons and after lateral shoots are produced. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves elliptic, apex acute, base cuneate; venation fine and close, running parallel to the blade margin; seedling glabrous. Seed germination time 7 to 9 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ, restricted to the Atherton Tableland area. Altitudinal range from 600-1000 m. This species grows in a variety of rain forest habitats but it tends to be close to the boundary of rain forest and wet sclerophyll forest. Trees can attain massive dimensions and the species has gained quite a reputation as a timber tree but it must still be regarded as a rare species.

Natural History & Notes

This species is quite rare and is only found on the Atherton Tableland. Some of the largest Kauri Pines logged in North Queensland belong to this species. The girths of some trees are impressive, although the log lengths tended to be on the short side. Trees with girth breast high of 30 feet were not uncommon, but their number today is some what reduced and large trees tend to be found only in special reserves. Some fine specimens are present in Lake Barrine National Park

The timber of this species has had a wide range of used and is more or less comparable to *Araucaria cunninghamii*.

Wood specific gravity 0.48. Cause et al. (1989).

RFK Code

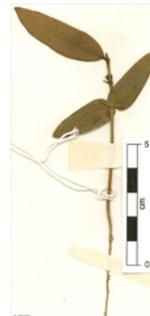
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Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

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