

# *Alectryon diversifolius* (F.Muell.) S.T.Reynolds

**Family:**

**Sapindaceae**

Reynolds, S.T. (1987) *Austrobaileya* 2(4): 335.

**Common name:**

Scrub Boonaree; Holly Bush

**Stem**

A shrub or small tree to 4m; bark greyish, rough throughout; new growth reddish; buds and young stems with short spreading hairs; stems becoming hairless.

**Leaves**

Leaves simple, alternate or clustered on short lateral branches; petiole very short, 2-4 mm long, hairless. Leaf blade very variable, stiff and leathery, narrow-oblong or narrow-elliptical, 1.5 - 6 cm long, 0.5 - 1.5 cm wide; margin entire or with few lobes with sharp spines at the tips (juvenile leaves somewhat lobed, pinnatifid); pinnately veined, with 8-11 pairs of main laterals, distinct both surfaces; domatia absent; apex obtuse to spinose; base long-tapered; hairless.

**Flowers**

Inflorescence axillary, flowers solitary or few in clusters; functionally unisexual and monoecious, 3-3.5 mm diam. Calyx shallowly 5-lobed, white, yellow, green or red; petals absent. Male flowers with 6-8 stamens strongly exerted, ovary rudimentary; female flowers with superior ovary of 2 -4 locules and staminodes, ovules 1 per locule.

**Fruit**

Fruit a dry to leathery, capsule, unlobed and globose or with 2 lobes (locules), 10 -14 mm diameter.

Fruit dehiscent, each lobe splitting to release one black-brown globose seed 4.5 mm diameter, with a red to orange cupular aril. Aril granular, fleshy, partly covering seed to about halfway.

**Seedlings**

Features not available.

**Distribution and Ecology**

Occurs in CEQ and southwards as far as northern New South Wales. Altitudinal range from 100 to 640 m. Grows in vine thickets and in brigalow communities.

**Synonyms**

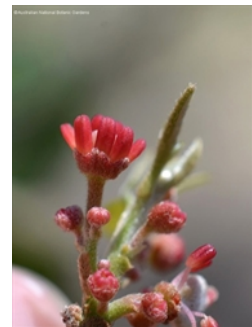
**Heterodendrum diversifolium** F.Muell., *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 1(3): 46 (1858), Type: "In virgultis sic dictis "Brigalow Scrub." Australiae orientalis tropicae et subtropicae.". **Nepheium diversifolium** (F.Muell.) F.Muell., *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 10(85): 82 (1876).

**RFK Code**

3608



Leaf and flowers. CC-BY: APII, ANBG.



Flowers. CC-BY: APII, ANBG.

Copyright © CSIRO 2020, all rights reserved.



Web edition hosted at <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest>