

Antirhea sp. Mt Lewis (B.Gray 5733)

Family:

Rubiaceae

Provisional HISPID phrase name.

Stem

Occasionally grows into a small tree but also flowers and fruits as a shrub.

Leaves

Stipules triangular, about 9-12 x 4 mm. Inner surface densely clothed in white prostrate hairs interspersed with dark brown, linear structures (glands?). Leaf blades about 9-12 x 3.5-5 cm. Petioles about 0.8-0.9 cm long. Lateral veins about 9-12 curving inside the blade margin but not forming definite loops. Leaf blades hairy on both the upper and lower surfaces. Domatia (if present) are tufts of hairs and are more obvious at forks on the lateral veins rather than along the midrib. Reticulate venation fine and parallel like ploughed fields on a aerial photograph.

Flowers

Calyx lobes about 2-4 mm long. Corolla about 8-9 mm long, the lobes about 1-1.5 mm long. Both calyx and corolla clothed in pale prostrate hairs. Pollen yellow.

Fruit

Fruits about 12 x 9 mm, hairy (clothed in pale prostrate hairs) calyx lobes persistent at the apex. Seed about 6-7 x 2-2.5 mm.

Seedlings

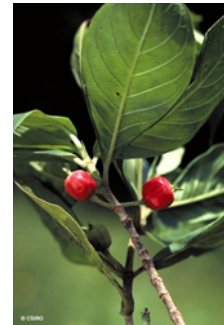
Cotyledons broadly lanceolate, about 8 x 3.5 mm. Petioles and hypocotyl papillose. First pair of leaves elliptic, base obtuse, both the upper and lower surface clothed in long translucent hairs. Reticulate venation close and parallel. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade clothed in hairs on both the upper and lower surfaces, lateral veins about 7 or 8 on each side of the midrib and forming loops just inside the blade margin. Petiole hairy, red, about 5-7 mm long. Stipules hairy, triangular, about 4 mm long, tapering to a fine point at the apex. Stem clothed in erect and contorted hairs. Seed germination time 42 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ. Altitudinal range from 500-1400 m. Grows as an understory plant in undisturbed upland and mountain rain forest on granite.

RFK Code

1065



Leaves and fruit. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon and 1st leaf stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO

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