

Araucaria cunninghamii Mudie var. *cunninghamii*

Family:

Araucariaceae

Endlicher, S.L. (1847) *Synopsis Coniferarum*: 187.

Common name:

Moreton Bay Pine; Rocket Tree; Richmond River Pine; Queensland Pine; Pine, Richmond River; Pine, Queensland; Pine, Moreton Bay; Pine, Dorrigo; Pine, Hoop; Hoop Pine; Dorrigo Pine; Colonial Pine; Pine, Colonial

Stem

Bark shed in horizontal strips.

Leaves

Leaves narrow and short (less than 8 x 3 mm) ending in sharp points.

Flowers

Male cones about 3.5-8 cm long.

Fruit

Cones 5-10 cm long. Seed difficult to distinguish being enclosed in a winged cone scale.

Seedlings

Cotyledons bilobed, deeply divided to the base, the lobes very narrow, about 20-25 mm long. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves sessile, flat, tapering to a needle-like point at the apex. Seed germination time 9 to 14 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CYP, NEQ and CEQ. With scattered distribution in CYP, and rare and restricted in NEQ, extending southwards to north-eastern New South Wales and reaching its best development in south-eastern Queensland. Altitudinal range in CYP, NEQ and CEQ from near sea level to about 600 m. In CYP and NEQ this species tends to occur in situations where luxuriant rain forest development is precluded by unfavourable soil or substrate conditions but where forest fires seldom occur. Also occurs in New Guinea.

Natural History & Notes

This species was the mainstay of the timber industry in Southern Queensland from the time of first settlement up to the Second World War. However, although it occurs sporadically in North Queensland, it has never made a significant contribution to the timber industry. The significant stands in the McIlwraith Range area near Coen have never been exploited as they are too far away from market areas and extraction costs are prohibitive.

The timber of this species has had a wide range of uses: boxes and cases, broom handles, butter churns, stoves for cooperage, blackboards, office fittings, plywood, kitchen furniture, internal house fittings, sheeting, venetian blinds, bread boards, washboards, instrument cases, ammunition boxes, piano cases and keys, violin backs and bellies, paper pulp, masts and booms in sailing boats, boat planking and oars. Swain (1928).

Wood specific gravity 0.56. Cause et al. (1989).

Synonyms

Araucaria cunninghamii* Mudie**, *The Picture of Australia*: 133 (1829), Type: "...grows abundantly on the banks of the Brisbane..". ***Araucaria cunninghamii* Mudie f. *cunninghamii, Bailey, F.M. in *Comprehensive Catalogue of Queensland Plants*: 513 (1913). ***Araucaria cunninghamii* f. *glauca* (Antoine) F.M.Bailey**, *Comprehensive Catalogue of Queensland Plants*: 513 (1913). ***Araucaria glauca* Antoine**, *Coniferen, nach Lambert, Louden und andern frei Bearbeitet*: 105, t. 44 (1841). ***Araucaria cunninghamii* var. *glauca* (Antoine) Endl.**, *Synopsis Coniferarum*: 187 (1847). ***Eutassa cunninghamii* (Mudie) Sweet**, *Sweet's Hortus Britannicus* Edn. 3: 623 (1839). ***Araucaria cunninghamii* var. *longifolia* Endl.**, *Synopsis Coniferarum*: 187 (1847), Type: "Antoine Conf. t. 44. f. 2."

RFK Code



Leaves and cone/fruit. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



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