

Archidendron ramiflorum (F.Muell.) Kosterm.

Family:
Fabaceae

Kostermans, A.G.J.H. (1956) *Additional Notes on Mimosaceae* : 6.

Stem

A small slender tree seldom exceeding 10 cm dbh.

Leaves

Leaflets stalked, the leaflet stalks about 0.5-1 cm long. Compound leaf petioles comparatively short, about 2-3 cm long. A raised gland present on the upper surface at the apex of the compound leaf petiole. Similar glands present on the upper surface of each of the secondary leaf axes between each pair of leaflets. Similar, though smaller, glands produced along the midrib on the upper surface of the leaflet blade. Leaflet blades about 14-28 x 5.2-14.5 cm.

Flowers

Inflorescence mainly on the stem. Flowers sessile. Peduncles about 5-10 cm long. Staminal filaments cream, about 20-55 mm long.

Fruit

Fruits mainly on the stem, yellow or orange on the inner surface. Seeds about 13-14 x 8-9 mm, glossy. Cotyledons pale green.

Seedlings

First pair of leaves pinnate, each leaf with two leaflets. At the tenth leaf stage: peg-like glands produced on the upper surface of the compound leaf axis at or near the petiole apex and on the secondary axes between the leaflet stalks; about 3-5 stalked glands also occur along the upper surface of the leaflet midrib; upper surface of leaflet glabrous. Stipules thick and fleshy, about 4 mm long. Crushed roots emit a strong odour like shallots (*Allium ascalonicum*). Seed germination time 9 to 22 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ, occurs between Rossville and Tully. Altitudinal range from sea level to 900 m. Grows as an understory tree in well developed lowland and upland rain forest on a variety of sites.

Natural History & Notes

Seeds are eaten by King Parrots. Cooper & Cooper (1994).

A slender tree producing white powder-puff flowers from the trunk. Fruits are large red spirals, yellow inside and seeds are blue-black.

Synonyms

***Feuilleea ramiflora* (F.Muell.) Kuntze**, *Revisio Generum Plantarum* 1: 188(1891). ***Pithecellobium ferdinandi-muelleri* Domin**, *Bibliotheca Botanica* 89(4): 831(1928). ***Pithecellobium ramiflorum* (F.Muell.) F.M.Bailey**, *The Queensland Flora* 2: 521(1900). ***Zygia ramiflora* (F.Muell.) Kosterm.**, *Bulletin of the Organisation of Scientific Research. Indonesia No. 20*: 26(1954). ***Albizia ramiflora* F.Muell.**, *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 9: 178(1875), Type: Ad flumen Daintree-River, Fitzalan. Holotype: MEL; isotype: BRI; probable isotype: MEL. ***Albizia vaillantii* var. *pentzkeana* Ewart**, *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria* 19(2): 33(1907), Type: (not cited). ***Pithecellobium pentzkeanum* (Ewart) Mohlenbr.**, *Webbia* 21: 684(1966). ***Archidendron vaillantii* var. *pentzkeana* Ewart**, *Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria n. ser.* 19: 33(1906), Type: Australia: Queensland: Daintree River, Pentzke 4, in 1882 (MEL). Fide Cowan, *Fl. Aust.* 12: 47.

RFK Code

928



Cauliflorous flowers. © CSIRO



Flowers and buds. © B. Gray



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Dehiscing fruit. © W. T. Cooper



Dehiscent fruit. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, hypogeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

