

Aristolochia deltantha F.Muell.

Family:

Aristolochiaceae

Mueller, F.J.H. von (1868), *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 6(46): 179. Type: Ad sinum litoralem Rockingham Bay, Dullabunya
Lecto: MEL 1553306. Fide Parsons (1996).

Common name:

Aristolochia, Mountain; Native Dutchman' Pipe; Mountain Aristolochia

Stem

Vine stem diameters to 3 cm recorded. Blaze odour quite apparent but difficult to describe. Oak grain visible in transverse sections of the stem but the vascular rays don't radiate from a central point but rather from a line bisecting the stem transverse section.

Leaves

Leaf blades adhere when the underside is pressed onto clothing. Leaf blades about 3-18.5 x 1.3-7.5 cm, petioles about 0.7-4.5 cm long, twisted +/- acting like tendrils. Leaf blades hairy on the underside and at least some of the hairs end in a hook. Glands ('oil dots') visible with a lens on the underside of the leaf blade. Basal lobes of the leaf blade frequently overlap one another.

Flowers

Pedicel gradually tapering into the ovary (hypanthium). Perianth tube somewhat sinuous, about 35 mm long and about 25-30 mm diam. at the apex. Apex +/- 3-lobed or 3-pouched. Perianth +/- shaped like the amplifier or horn on an old fashioned gramophone. Perianth tube inflated at the base around the stamens. Outer surface of the perianth marked by purple veins. Stamens fused together to form a structure around the style. Anthers sessile. Ovary 6-ribbed and 6-locular. Ovules numerous in each locule.

Fruit

Fruits about 5.5-6 x 3 cm, outer surface with 6 longitudinal ribs running the length of the fruit. Seeds numerous, each seed +/- triangular, about 5-7 x 4-6 mm. Endosperm oily. Embryo minute, about 0.5-0.7 mm long, cotyledons about as long as the radicle. Embryo basal, i.e. at the pointed end of the seed.

Seedlings

One cataphyll, sometimes, but not always, produced before the first true leaves. First leaves cordate or narrowly cordate, apex acute, base auriculate. Both the upper and lower leaf blade surfaces clothed in simple hairs. Midrib raised on the upper surface. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade elliptic, about 5.5-6 x 1.3 cm, apex acute, base conspicuously cordate or auriculate with obvious lobes, petiole about 1 cm long, densely clothed in hairs. Both the upper and lower leaf blade surfaces densely clothed in short hairs. Midrib and lateral veins raised on the upper surface. Stem twining. Stems clothed in mostly backward-pointing hairs. Taproot brown and slightly swollen. Seed germination time 96 to 228 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Queensland, occurs in CYP and NEQ, from Iron Range to Paluma Range, and a record in CEQ near Mackay. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1100 m. Grows in well developed lowland and upland rain forest on a variety of substrates.

Natural History & Notes

Food plant for the larval stages of the Cape York Birdwing and Richmond Birdwing Butterflies. Common & Waterhouse (1981).

Synonyms

Aristolochia deltantha* F.Muell. var. *deltantha, *Queensland Agricultural Journal* 28: 199(1912).

***Pararistolochia deltantha* (F.Muell.) Mich.J.Parsons**, *Bot. J. Linn. Soc.* 120: 206 (1996).

RFK Code

2205



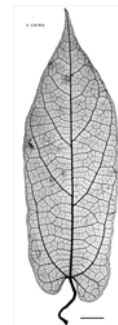
Flower. © CSIRO



Flower. CC-BY J.L. Dowe



Fruit. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, semi-hypogeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Vine stem bark and vine stem transverse section. © CSIRO



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