Breynia macrantha (Hassk.) Chakrab. & N.P.Balakr.

**Family:**
Phyllanthaceae


**Common name:**
Pumpkin Fruit; Sauropus, Atherton; Atherton Sauropus; Pumpkin Bush

**Stem**
Usually flowers and fruits as a shrub about 1-3 m tall.

**Leaves**
Leaf blades about 6-11 x 3-5 cm, produced on lateral shoots which resemble compound leaves. Leaves tend to be alternate and not spirally arranged on the twigs. Stipules triangular, about 4 mm long, apex acuminate, margins pale (at least when dry).

**Flowers**
Male flowers: Flowers about 2 mm diam. on long slender pedicels about 10-15 mm long. Anthers attached to three extremely short spokes radiating from the centre of the flower. Female flowers: Flowers about 4-5 mm diam. on long slender pedicels about 10-15 mm long. Ovules 2 per locule. Stigmas 6.

**Fruit**
Fruits +/- shaped like miniature Queensland Blue pumpkins (Cucurbita pepo) borne on long slender pedicels. Fruits about 10-12 x 15-18 mm, calyx persistent at the base of the fruit. Seed completely enclosed in a white aril. Endosperm scanty. Cotyledons very unequal, the smaller cotyledon +/- embedded in the convex side of the larger cotyledon.

**Seedlings**
Cotyledons without any obvious veins, one cotyledon thick and fleshy, the other thinner and shorter, more closely resembling an ordinary leaf. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade ovate, apex acute, base rounded. Twigs winged with the wings starting at the base of each petiole and extending down the stem. Stipules triangular, about 1-2 mm long, margin pale at least when dry. Seed germination time 38 to 53 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**
Occurs in NEQ. Altitudinal range from 700-800 m. Grows as an understory plant in well developed upland rain forest on basalt. Also occurs in Asia and Malesia.

**Synonyms**

**RFK Code**
3090