

Cleistanthus cunninghamii (Müll.Arg.) Müll.Arg.

Family:

Phyllanthaceae

Müller Argoviensis, J. in Candolle, A.L.P.P. de (1866) *Prodromus Systematis Naturalis Regni Vegetabilis* 15(2): 506.

Stem

Shrub or tree to 9 metres; new growth pinkish; buds and young stems covered with simple brown hairs; older stems glabrous with prominent lenticels; stipules 2, free, lanceolate, 1-3 mm, persistent.

Leaves

Simple, alternate, 2-ranked; lamina ovate or oblong-elliptic, 40-110mm by 20-40mm wide; apex tapered to a blunt point; base rounded; margin entire; upper surface glossy, glabrous; lower surface grey-green with scattered pale hairs; pinnately veined with 6-12 main laterals each side of midrib, distinct both surfaces; petiole 2-5mm.

Flowers

Inflorescences axillary; flowers solitary or in sessile clusters; flowers unisexual, actinomorphic, 3-4mm diameter, white to yellowish; plants monoecious; sepals 5, petaloid; petals 5, much shorter than sepals; male flowers with 5 stamens; filaments basally fused into a column; vestigial gynoecium present; female flowers with superior 3-locular ovary bearing 3 styles each 2-lobed.

Fruit

A dry capsule, depressed globular, 5-7mm in diameter, 3-lobed, greenish to red, breaking apart when mature; seed 1 or 2 per locule, black.

Seedlings

Features not available.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CEQ and southwards as far as central coastal New South Wales. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 800 m. Grows in rain forest, littoral rain forest, and dry rain forest.

Synonyms

Lebidiera cunninghamii Müll.Arg., *Linnaea: ein Journal für die Botanik in ihrem ganzen Umfange, oder Beiträge zur Pflanzenkunde* 32: 80 (1863), Type: In New South Wales Novae-Hollandiae (Cunningh. n. 31! et n. 120 in hb. DC). *Amanoa cunninghamii* (Müll.Arg.) Bail., *Adansonia* 6: 335 (1866). *Kaluhaburunghos cunninghamii* (Müll.Arg.) Kuntze, *Revisio Generum Plantarum* 2: 607 (1891).

RFK Code

3639



Leaf [not vouchered]. CC-BY: S. & A. Pearson.



Flower. CC-BY: APII, ANBG.



Capsule. CC-BY: APII, ANBG.

Copyright © CSIRO 2020, all rights reserved.



Web edition hosted at <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest>