

# *Darlingia darlingiana* (F.Muell.) L.A.S.Johnson

## Family:

Proteaceae

Johnson, L.A.S. (1962) *Contributions from the New South Wales National Herbarium* 3(3): 93.

## Common name:

Brown Silky Oak; Silky Oak; Rose Silky Oak; Oak, Silky; Oak, Brown Silky; Oak, Rose Silky

## Stem

Oak grain in the wood. A dark red, lace-like pattern in the blaze, corresponding to the oak grain in the wood.

## Leaves

Oak grain in the twigs. Leaf blades about 12-40 cm long. Midrib generally raised on the upper surface.

## Flowers

Flowers produce a rather strong heavy perfume which some people do not find pleasant. Flower bracts less than 5 mm long. Tepals about 25-30 mm long. Hypogynous glands globular, four. Ovules 4. Ovary clothed in golden hairs.

## Fruit

Follicles about 4.5-7 x 2-3 cm. Seeds flat, about 4-6.5 x 2-3 cm, wing about 3-10 mm wide, embryo about 17-35 x 10-20 mm.

## Seedlings

Cotyledons about 30-35 x 12-15 mm. First pair of leaves simple, margin entire or lobed. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade with a few hairs on the midrib on the upper surface; terminal bud clothed in prostrate, brown hairs. Seed germination time 17 to 21 days.

## Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ, widespread throughout the area. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1150 m. This species is favoured by disturbance and is a characteristic component of rain forest regrowth. Grows in well developed rain forest on a variety of sites.

## Natural History & Notes

An upright tree commonly cultivated for the profuse flowering and large attractive leaves.

Produces a useful timber with an oak grain.

Wood specific gravity 0.77 Cause et al. (1989).

## Synonyms

***Darlingia spectatissima* F.Muell.**, *The Journal of Botany* 4 : 268(1866), Type: from N.E. Australia.

***Darlingia spectatissima* F.Muell.**, *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 5: 152(1865). ***Darlingia spectatissima* F.Muell. var. spectatissima**, *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum* 11: 231(1930).

***Helicia darlingiana* F.Muell.**, *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 5: 24(1865), Type: In silvis ad sinum Rockingham Bay. Dallachy.

## RFK Code

8



Flowers and flower buds. © CSIRO



Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



Flowers. © Barry Jago



Fruit, dehiscent fruit and seeds. © W. T. Cooper



Leaves and dehisced fruit. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledons and 6 leaves. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

