

# *Denhamia viridissima* F.M.Bailey & F.Muell. ex F.M.Bailey

**Family:**

**Celastraceae**

Mueller, F.J.H. von (1868) *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 6(47): 156. Type: Bellenden-Ker.

**Stem**

A thin orange layer occurring under the dead bark on the stem and also the roots where it may be particularly obvious.

**Leaves**

Leaf blades about 4.5-11 x 1.5-3.5 cm, often clustered on the twigs and although appearing whorled are really in a tight spiral. Midrib green and raised on the upper surface.

**Flowers**

Petals about 3.5-4.5 mm long. Staminal filaments about 1.3 mm or longer. Style about 0.4-1 mm long. Ovary with about 8-10 ovules per locule (usually reduced to six).

**Fruit**

Capsules with woody valves. Capsules 2.5-4.5 cm long.

**Seedlings**

Cotyledons about 17-18 x 12-14 mm, rounded at the apex. First pair of leaves with a few fine teeth on the margins. At the tenth leaf stage: midrib raised on the upper surface, stipules small and inconspicuous, visible with a lens; stem with four small wings, two decurrent from each petiole. Seed germination time 56 to 62 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**

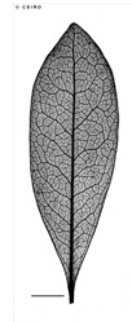
Endemic to NEQ, known only from Mt Bartle Frere, the Bellenden Ker Range, the Malbon Thompson Range, Mt Lewis and the McDowall Range. Altitudinal range from 600-1600 m. A characteristic tree of ridge tops in mountain rain forest.

**RFK Code**

591



Immature fruit. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



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