# Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants - Online edition

# Ehretia acuminata var. pyrifolia (D.Don) I.M.Johnst.

## Family:

# Boraginaceae

Johnston, I.M. (1951) Journal of the Arnold Arboretum 32: 23.

#### Common name:

Ash, Silky; Churnwood; Koda; Kodo Wood; Silky Ash; Brown Cedar

## Stem

Deciduous; leafless for a period in August or September. Stems of large trees generally fluted and convoluted. Blaze darkens rapidly on exposure. Oak grain visible in the inner blaze and wood.

#### Leaves

Petiole grooved on the upper surface. Lateral veins depressed on the upper surface. Twig bark strong and fibrous when stripped. Twigs quite pithy. Leaf blades about  $6-15 \times 2-6$  cm.

#### **Flowers**

Style about 2-2.5 mm long with two short branches, each about 0.2 mm long, at the apex. Stigmas small, terminal on each branch.

#### Fruit

Fruits globular or depressed globular, about 5-6 mm long.

### Seedlings

Cotyledons broadly lanceolate, about 3-5 mm wide, sparsely hairy on the upper surface and petioles. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves ovate or elliptic, margins serrate, upper surface hairy. Seed germination time 37 days.

## Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 800 m. Usually grows in drier scrubs, seldom found in any abundance. Also occurs from India to New Guinea.

## Natural History & Notes

Fruit eaten by several species of birds. Cooper & Cooper (1994).

A food plant for the larval stages of the Hairy Lineblue and Common Aeroplane Butterflies. Common & Waterhouse (1981).

# Synonyms

Ehretia pyrifolia D.Don, Prodromus Florae Nepalensis: 102 (1825), Type: Nepal.

# **RFK Code**

120





Leaves and fruit. © Australian Plant Image Index (APII). Photographer: M. Fagg.



Fruit and cross section. © W. T. Cooper



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO

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10th leaf stage. © CSIRO















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