

Flindersia ifflana F.Muell.

Family:
Rutaceae

Mueller, F.J.H. von (1877) *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 10: 94. Type: Ad oram Trinity-Bay; W. Hill

Common name:

Hickory Ash; Cairns Hickory; Ash, Hickory; Hickory, Cairns

Stem

Bark thick and deeply fissured on large trees but nondescript on small trees.

Leaves

Lateral leaflet blades about 6-13.5 x 2.8-5.2 cm, with about 15-36 lateral veins on each side of the midrib. Compound leaf axis somewhat flattened, margin angular or shortly winged towards the base.

Flowers

Inflorescence hairs stellate. Sepals ovate-triangular, about 1-1.2 mm long. Petals elliptic-oblong, about 2-2.5 mm long. Ovules 2 on each side of the placenta.

Fruit

Capsules not disintegrating following dehiscence, about 3-7 cm long, outer surface muriccate. (Backs of the valves covered with short, broad, volcano-shaped humps.) Capsules normally present beneath mature trees, valves adhering by their bases and spreading like a flower.

Seedlings

Cotyledons obdeltoid to reniform, much wider than long, about 6-10 x 15-20 mm. Oil dots sparse, visible with a lens. At the tenth leaf stage: leaflet blades ovate, terminal leaflet attenuate at the base, lateral leaflets +/- sessile, midrib raised on the upper surface; oil dots numerous, visible to the naked eye; petiole and rachis of compound leaf winged. Seed germination time 7 to 25 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CYP and NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1100 m. Grows in drier, more seasonal rain forest often associated with Kauri Pine (*Agathis robusta*), also found in beach forest and low closed forest on old sand dunes. Also occurs in New Guinea.

Natural History & Notes

This species produces a yellowish timber which is very durable and generally useful for a variety of purposes from bridge girders to chisel handles.

The timber of this species has been used in the manufacture of pulleys, piles, floors (floor slats, dance floors), carriage body framing, house stumps and window sills, ships decking, diving springboards, fishing rods, tool handles (axe, hammer, brush-hook, adze, pick and grubber), house framing, sleepers, vaulting poles. Swain (1928).

Wood specific gravity 0.98. Cause et al. (1989).

RFK Code

194



Flower and buds. © Barry Jago



Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



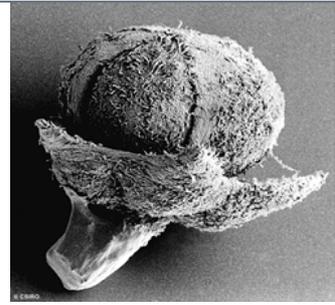
Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Flower, side view, calyx hairy, petals hairy. © CSIRO



Flower, bird's-eye view, petals, stamens with glabrous filaments. © CSIRO

