**Gynochthodes sessilis** Halford

**Family:**
**Rubiaceae**


**Stem**
Vine stem diameters to 6 cm recorded. Blaze turns purple on exposure. Sapwood surface often corrugated.

**Leaves**
Leaf blades about 8-13 x 3-6 cm, petioles about 1-2 cm long. Stipules interpetiolar, triangular, about 2 mm long. Leaves dry to a very dark colour, almost black. Lateral veins about 6-8 on each side of the midrib.

**Flowers**
Calyx (hypanthium) about 1.5-1.8 mm long. Corolla lobes reflexed, densely clothed in hairs on the inner surface.

**Fruit**
Fruits globular or ellipsoid, about 12-13 x 10-15 mm, excavated at the apex. Pyrenes (1 seeded) usually 1-4 per fruit. Seeds about 8-10 x 6 mm. Embryo about 2.5-5 mm. Cotyledons straight, about 1 mm long. Radicle much longer than the cotyledons but about as wide.

**Seedlings**
Cotyledons about 17-21 x 9-12 mm, petioles about 1-2 mm long. At the tenth leaf stage: seedling glabrous; leaf blade about 10-15 x 2-3.5 cm, petiole about 5-6 mm long. Midrib raised on the upper surface of the leaf blade and lateral veins forming loops inside the blade margin. Stipules interpetiolar, about 2 mm long forming a short sheath around the stem, stipules abruptly narrowed into an attenuate tip at the apex. Terminal bud slightly resinous. Seed germination time 68 to 105 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**
Endemic to Queensland, occurs in CYP, NEQ and CEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 450 m. Grows in lowland and upland rain forest.

**Synonyms**

**RFK Code**
2151