**Huberantha nitidissima** (Dunal) Chaowasku

**Family:**
Annonaceae


**Common name:**
Beech, Canary; Polyalthia; Pine, China; Canary Beech; Shiny Leaf Tree; China Pine

**Stem**
Subrhytidome layer dark, sometimes almost black. Fibrous stripes in the inner blaze form a lace-like pattern corresponding to the fine oak grain in the wood.

**Leaves**
Leaf blades about 6-10 x 2.5-4 cm. Oil dots visible with a lens. Twig bark strong and fibrous when stripped. Lenticels usually obvious on the twigs. Young shoots clothed in prostrate brown silky hairs. Domatia, if present, are tufts of hairs.

**Flowers**
Calyx lobes triangular to almost cordate, about 2.5 mm long. Inner and outer petals of similar dimensions, about 15 x 4-5 mm. Stamens about 30. Ovaries about 6-8.

**Fruit**
Fruiting carpels ellipsoid, about 8-10 x 6-9 mm, on a stalk about 2-4 mm long. Seeds about 6-7 x 5-6 mm, one per fruiting carpel. Embryo minute.

**Seedlings**
Cotyledons elliptic, 13-18 mm long. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves ovate, apex acute, base obtuse, upper surface hairy at least on the midrib and main lateral veins; petiole, stem and terminal bud clothed in tortuous pale hairs. Seed germination time 77 to 222 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**
A widespread species in NT, CYP, NEQ, CEQ and southwards to north-eastern New South Wales. Altitudinal range in northern Australia from near sea level to 800 m. Usually grows in drier rain forest. Also occurs in New Caledonia and New Guinea.

**Natural History & Notes**

Seldom grows large enough to produce millable logs. Produces a useful general purpose timber. Wood specific gravity 0.54. Cause et al. (1989).

**Synonyms**

**RFK Code**
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