

Ichnocarpus rhombifolius (Markgr.) D.J.Middleton

Family:

Apocynaceae

Middleton, D.J. (1994) *Blumea* 39: 84.

Stem

Vine stem diameters to 6 cm recorded. Living bark layer quite thick. Juvenile shoots cling by means of roots while mature shoots climb by twining.

Leaves

Twigs and petioles produce a milky exudate. Leaf blades about 4-7 x 2-4.5 cm, petioles about 0.5-1 cm long. Lateral veins about eight or nine on each side of the midrib.

Flowers

Flowers about 8-15 mm diam. Calyx tube about 2-2.5 mm long, lobes about 1.5-3 mm long. Corolla tube about 5-7 mm long, inner surface hairy, lobes about 7 mm long. Anthers shaped like arrowheads, about 3-4 mm long, filaments about 2 mm long. Ovary about 4.5-5 mm long, base surrounded by 5 glands or a lobed disk. Style expanded to form a style head resembling a crow's nest on a mast. Ovules numerous.

Fruit

Fruits 2-armed, divaricate, each fruiting carpel about 16-18.5 x 0.8-0.9 cm, outer surface clothed in short brown hairs. Seed about 16-19 mm long. Plume golden brown, about 60 mm long. Embryo green, about 17 mm long. Radicle short, about 1 mm long.

Seedlings

About 2-4 pairs of cataphylls produced before the first true leaves. First leaves +/- orbicular, apex obtuse to emarginate, base cordate. Leaf blades sparsely clothed in hairs on both the upper and lower surfaces. Several rusty brown stipule-like glands present on the stems between the points of attachment of the petioles. Adventitious roots present on some stems. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade broadly elliptic to orbicular, about 6-8 x 5-7 mm. Apex obtuse, base rounded to cordate. Stem clothed in short, pale brown hairs. Very small stipule-like glands visible on the stem between the petiole bases. Seed germination time 55 days.

Distribution and Ecology

In Australia known only from CYP. Altitudinal range from sea level to 500 m. Often grows in well developed gallery forests but also found in mountain rain forests. Also occurs in New Guinea.

Synonyms

***Ichnocarpus serpyllifolius* auct. non (Blume) P.I.Forst.**, *Australian Systematic Botany* 5(5): 539(1992). ***Microchites rhombifolia* Markgr.**, *Bot. Jahrb. Syst.* 61: 206(1927), Type: Hauptlager Malu, Papua New Guinea, 3 Mar. 1913, C. Ledermann 10411. ***Lamechites schlechteri* Markgraf**, *Nova Guinea* 14: 290(1926), Type: Papua New Guinea, Madang Province. Minjem Tor., 10.xi 1908, R. Schlechter 17266. ***Ficus serpyllifolia* Blume**, *Bijdr.* 1: 443(1826), Type: Java, Blume; (holo: L! [L908188-2630, 3695]; iso: BO!). (ref. P.I.Forster, *Austral. Syst. Bot.* 3(4) (1992) 539. ***Ichnocarpus salomonensis* C.T.White**, *J. Arnold Arb.* 31: 112(1950), Type: Solomon Islands. Malatai, near the Helo River, 11.viii.1945, F. S. Walker & C. T. White BSP117. ***Microchites rhombifolia* var. lanceolata** Markgraf, *Bot. Jahrb. Syst.* 61: 206(1927), Type: Papua New Guinea, West Sepik province. Pionierlager, 6.v.1912, Ledermann 7200.

RFK Code

2123



Flowers. © CSIRO



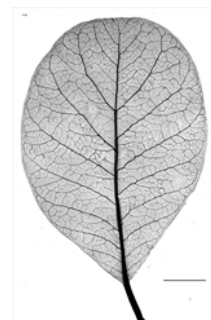
Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



Leaves and fruit. © CSIRO



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Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, cotyledons still in seed, hypogeal germination. © CSIRO



Vine stem bark and vine stem transverse section. © CSIRO



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