

Larsenaikia ochreatea (F.Muell.) Tirveng.

Family:

Rubiaceae

Tirvengadam, D.D. (1993) *Nordic Journal of Botany* 13: 181

Common name:

Wenlock Gardenia

Stem

Seldom exceeding 30 cm dbh. Blaze conspicuously layered as a result of layers of fine, pink, granular tissue and hard, bony, brown or cream stripes.

Leaves

Stipules, densely clothed in +/- erect hairs, completely encircling the twigs. Leaf blades rather large, about 8-25 x 4-10 cm. Domatia, if present, are small foveoles with white hairs at the opening.

Flowers

Calyx lobes about 6-8 mm long, corolla lobes about 20-30 mm long. Corolla tube pubescent externally, cylindrical. Anthers partially exerted from the corolla tube.

Fruit

Fruits ovoid, about 45-50 x 30-35 mm. Fruits +/- circular in transverse section.

Seedlings

Cotyledons obovate to +/- orbicular, about 8-11 mm long. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade obovate, apex acute to shortly acuminate, base auriculate, hairy on the upper surface, lateral veins about 8-12 on each side of the midrib; stipules interpetiolar, hairy, completely encircling the stem, apex truncate. Seed germination time 24 to 31 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Queensland, occurs in CYP, NEQ and CEQ. Altitudinal range from sea level to 400 m. Grows in open forest, monsoon forest and drier, more seasonal rain forest.

Natural History & Notes

A shrub or small tree with potential in horticulture. Flowers fragrant, white, turning yellow with age. Plants will withstand dry periods.

Synonyms

***Gardenia ochreatea* F.Muell.**, *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 1: 55(1858), Type: Qld, Burdekin River, Oct. 1856, Mueller s.n.; lecto: K; iso: MEL. Fide Puttock (1989). ***Gardenia kershawii* F.M.Bailey**, *Queensland Agricultural Journal Series 2* 2: 75(1914), Type: Claudie River, Jas. A. Kershaw; lecto: BRI. Fide Puttock (1989). ***Gardenia macgillivraei* Benth.**, *Flora Australiensis* 3: 409(1867), Type: Queensland. Cape York, McGillivray, W. Hill. Lecto: K. Fide Puttock (1989). ***Gardenia ochreatea* var. *parviflora* F.Muell.**, *Fragm.* 7: 46(1869), Type: Qld, Issacs River, 1844, Leichhardt 34; holo: MEL. ***Kailarsenia ochreatea* (F.Muell.) Puttock**, *Austrobaileya* 3(1): 54.

RFK Code

649



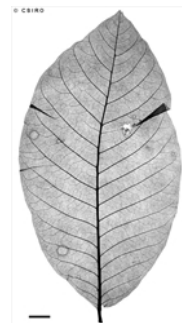
Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



Fruits. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



Cotyledon and 1st leaf stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO

