

Motherwellia haplosciadea F.Muell.

Family:
Araliaceae

Mueller, F.J.H. von (1869) *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 7: 107. Type: In silvis densis montium juxta Rockingham Bay
Dallachy.

Stem

Vine stem diameters to 7 cm recorded. Blaze odour spicy.

Leaves

Leaves variable, simple or compound with 3 leaflets. Leaf or leaflet blades about 4.5-14 x 2-6 cm, petiole or leaflet stalks from 0.2 to more than 3 cm long. Stipules produced between the petioles and the twig. Twigs emit a spicy odour when broken.

Flowers

Flowers dark red, about 9-10 mm diam. at anthesis. Calyx cupular, lobes small and inconspicuous. Petals ovate, about 4 x 2 mm. Style and stigma about 1.5 mm long. Stigmas two, small and inconspicuous.

Fruit

Fruits about 9 x 9 mm. Seeds about 6 x 4 mm. Embryo minute, difficult to find.

Seedlings

Cotyledons ovate, about 9-10 x 7 mm, midrib raised on the upper surface. First leaf simple, cordate, apex apiculate, margin toothed. Second leaf simple or trifoliolate, apices apiculate, margins toothed. At the tenth leaf stage: the base of the compound leaf petiole +/- sheathing the stem. Leaves trifoliolate, middle leaflet blade elliptic, lateral leaflet blades ovate, oblique at the base. Middle leaflet blade longer than the lateral leaflet blades. Midrib raised on the upper surface, margins with a few (1-3) teeth on each side. Seed germination time 39 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ. Altitudinal range from 700-1400 m. Grows in well developed upland and mountain rain forests usually on basalt or granite.

Synonyms

Aralia motherwellii F.Muell., *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 7: 107(1869).

RFK Code

2039



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

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Vine stem transverse section. © CSIRO



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