

Pleioluma xerocarpa (F.Muell. ex Benth.) Swenson

Family:

Sapotaceae

Swenson, U. et al (2013) *Taxon* 62(4): 765.

Common name:

Northern Coondoo; Coondoo; Blush Coondoo

Stem

Bark exudate slow and meagre. Subrhynchidome layer usually dark red to almost black.

Leaves

Leaf blades about 5.5-11 x 1.9-4.1 cm. Lateral veins slightly raised on the upper surface. Veinlets, from one lateral vein to the next, run at right angles to the midrib. Lateral veins curving inside the blade margin but not forming definite loops. Petioles produce a watery, milky exudate. Terminal buds and young shoots clothed in prostrate, rusty or dark brown hairs.

Flowers

Sepals triangular or triangular-ovate, about 2-4 x 1.5-2.5 mm, usually ferruginous pubescent or sericeous on both the inner and outer surfaces. Corolla about 4-6 mm long. Stamens inserted near the base of the corolla, filaments about 1.5 mm long, anthers about 1.2-1.5 mm long. Staminodes spatulate, about 1-1.5 mm long. Ovary + style about 4-4.5 mm long, sericeous, style difficult to distinguish from the ovary.

Fruit

Fruits obovoid, about 15-22 x 10-13 mm. Seeds 2-5 per fruit, obovoid or fusiform, about 16 x 6 x 5 mm. Testa thin, hilum about 1 mm wide, about 2/3 the length of the seed.

Seedlings

Cotyledons not coded. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade elongate-obovate, apex acuminate, base cuneate, upper surface glabrous or with a few pale brown, prostrate hairs along the midrib near the base, undersurface clothed in numerous, almost matted, pale brown hairs; lateral veins about ten each side of the midrib; petiole, stem and terminal bud clothed in prostrate, brown hairs. Seed germination time 39 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Australia, occurs in NEQ. Altitudinal range from sea level to 750 m. Grows as an understory tree in lowland and upland rain forest on a variety of sites but often near the rain forest margins.

Synonyms

Pouteria xerocarpa (F.Muell. ex Benth.) Baehni, *Boissiera* 11: 58 (1965). ***Sersalisia xerocarpa*** (Benth.) Domin, *Bibliotheca Botanica* 89(4): 1062(1928). ***Sideroxylon xerocarpum*** (Benth.) F.Muell., *Systematic Census of Australian Plants*: 91(1883). ***Beccariella xerocarpa*** (Benth.) Aubrev., *Adansonia ser.* 2 3: 335(1964). ***Planchonella xerocarpa*** (Benth.) H.J.Lam, *Bulletin du Jardin Botanique de Buitenzorg Series 3 7*: 218(1925). ***Achras xerocarpa*** Benth., *Flora Australiensis* 4: 281(1868), Type: Queensland. Rockingham Bay, Dallachy.

RFK Code

140



Flower. © Barry Jago



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Seedling. © CSIRO

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