

Pothos brassii B.L.Burt

Family:
Araceae

Burt, B.L. (1936) *Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information, Kew* : 495. Type: Queensland, Slopes of Thornton Peak, March 15, 1932, Brass 2311; holo: ?.

Stem

A slender vine not exceeding a stem diameter of 2 cm. Adventitious roots often present.

Leaves

Leaf blades about 8.5-20 x 2.5-6 cm, petioles about 3-6 cm long, deeply grooved on the upper surface and winged for more than half the length. Intramarginal veins two. Lateral veins numerous and parallel.

Flowers

Flowering spike about 16-17 mm long, +/- enclosed in a spathe about 12-19 mm long until anthesis. Spike borne on a peduncle about 2 cm long. Individual flowers sessile(?), about 1.7-2 mm long. Tepals six, about 1 mm long, each forming a hood over an anther. Anthers about 0.75 mm long, almost sessile. Ovary about 0.75-1 mm long, ovules one per locule.

Fruit

Infructescence about 2.5-3 cm long on a stalk about 3-10 cm long. Spathe about 3-3.2 cm long. Individual fruits ellipsoidal, about 15-18 x 10 mm. Seeds about 14-16 mm long. Embryo massive (about the size of the seed) not differentiated into radicle and plumule or not very obviously differentiated. Plumule in a cavity near the apex of the seed.

Seedlings

Usually two or three cataphylls produced before the first true leaf. First true leaves small, about 5-8 mm long, elliptic, apex mucronate or aristate, petioles winged and clasping the stem or petioles absent, and the base of the leaf blade clasping the stem. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade elliptic, apex mucronate, base clasping the stem. Venation meagre but usually with five longitudinal veins (including the midrib). Adventitious roots produced at each leaf node. Seed germination time 28 to 65 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ. Restricted to the area between Cape Tribulation and Bellenden Ker Township. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 750 m. Usually grows in well developed lowland and upland rain forest.

RFK Code

2592



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, hypogeal germination and 10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

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