

# *Psychotria hebecarpa* Merr. & L.M.Perry

Family:  
**Rubiaceae**



Merrill, E.D. & Perry, L.M. (1946) *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum* 27: 212-213. Type: "BRITISH NEW GUINEA: Aice District, Central Division, Brass 1419 (TYPE), May, 1926, in light pole forests (small tree; fruit white, succulent)."

## Stem

Shrub or subshrub with erect to prostrate stems up to 1.5 m tall.

## Leaves

Foliage densely ferruginous-tan pubescent throughout. Stipules valvate, ovate, 11–18 mm long, deeply bilobed with the lobes aristate and 5–7 mm long. Leaves petiolate; petiole 8–40 mm long, c. 2 mm diameter, deeply channelled adaxially; laminae weakly coriaceous to somewhat chartaceous, lanceolate-oblong, 115–200 × 48–80 mm; secondary lateral veins 10–19 per side of primary vein, heavily pubescent below, apex acute, base obtuse to round.



Herbarium specimen. © Queensland Herbarium

## Flowers

Inflorescence shortly pedunculate to 37 mm long, with 3 or 5 flower clusters, each subtended by foliose linear-lanceolate bracts up to 20 × 5 mm. Flowers sessile, subtended by linear bracts 10–15 mm long, 1–3 mm wide; calyx tube short and < .5 mm long, lobes lanceolate-subulate, 7–15 mm long, 1.8–2 mm wide, apices sharply acute; corolla tube c. 4.5 mm long.

## Fruit

Fruit fleshy, c. 12 mm long and 10 mm wide, white. Pyrenes 4–4.5 mm long, c. 2 mm wide, strongly ridged; endosperm not ruminant.

## Seedlings

Features not available.

## Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CYP, where it is known from the Lockerbie Scrub. Occurs in lowland rainforest, and in Australia in semi-deciduous complex notophyll vineforest. Also occurs in New Guinea.

## Synonyms

*Psychotria* sp. *Pajinka* (W.Cooper WWC1435) [Provisional HISPID Phrase Name]

## RFK Code

3669

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