

# *Pycnarrhena novoguineensis* Miq.

## Family:

**Menispermaceae**

Miquel, F.A.W. (1868) *Annales Musei Botanici Lugduno-Batavi* 4 : 87. Type: Nova-Guinea, A. Zippelius, Holst.

## Common name:

Common Milk Vine; Vine, Common Milk

## Stem

Vine stem diameters to 3 cm recorded. Concentric rings of included bark visible in transverse sections of the stems.

## Leaves

Leaf blades about 14-25 x 4.5-11 cm, petioles about 1.5-3.5 cm long, pulvinus well developed. Lateral veins forming distinct loops inside the blade margin. Oak grain in the twigs.

## Flowers

Male flowers: Sepals 6, +/- orbicular, adaxial surface concave, about 1.5-2 mm diam. Petals +/- crumpled, about 1 x 1 mm. Stamens about 10, each about 0.6 mm long (i.e. filament + anther).

## Fruit

Fruits subglobose, asymmetrical or pyriform, about 13-18 x 14-15 mm. Seeds broadly reniform, about 11-14 x 8-10 mm. Testa very thin. Cotyledons thick, about 11-12 x 7-8 mm, dimorphic, one cotyledon much larger than the other in each seed. Radicle about 1-2 mm long held beside the cotyledons.

## Seedlings

About 6 or 7 hairy cataphylls produced before the first true leaves. First true leaves elliptic, apex abruptly acuminate, base obtuse. Midrib slightly depressed on the upper surface. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade elliptic, about 10 x 4 cm, apex acuminate, base attenuate, midrib depressed on the upper surface. Lateral veins forming definite loops well inside the blade margin. Terminal bud clothed in pale hairs. Seed germination time 42 to 48 days.

## Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CYP and NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 200 m. Grows in gallery forest and lowland rain forest. Also occurs in New Guinea.

## Synonyms

***Pycnarrhena australiana* F.Muell.**, *The Victorian Naturalist* 3: 61(1886), Type: Queensland, Endeavour River; W. Persieh 668, 580 & 704. Syn: MEL. Bellenden Ker Ra. 1881, G.H.H. Karsten. Syn: MEL. ***Pycnarrhena sayeri* Diels**, *Das Pflanzenreich Heft* 46: 55(1910), Type: Queensland, Trinity Bay, 1886, W.A. Sayer. Holo: B. Iso; MEL.

## RFK Code

2103

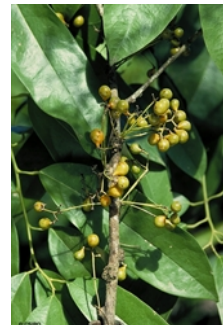


Flowers. CC-BY J.L. Dowe



Flowers on stem [not vouchered].

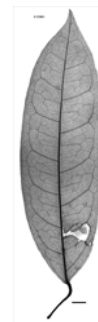
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Leaves and fruits. © CSIRO



Leaves and fruit. © CSIRO





10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, hypogeal germination. © CSIRO



Vine stem bark and vine stem transverse section. © CSIRO

