Randia sp. Peninsula (G.Stocker 1321)

Family:
Rubiaceae

Provisional HISPID phrase name.

Stem
May grow into a small tree, so far recorded as a shrub about 3-5 m tall.

Leaves
Stipules triangular, about 1.2 mm long, fused at the base and encircling the twig. Leaf blades about 4-4.5 x 1.5-2 cm, petioles about 0.3-0.4 cm long. Domatia (foveoles) about 2 or 3 on each side of the midrib. Lateral veins forming indistinct loops inside the blade margin.

Flowers
Flowers about 15-24 mm diam., solitary at the apex of short branchlets. Calyx tube (hypanthium) about 5.5 mm long, calyx lobes about 0.5 mm long. Corolla tube about 30-32 mm long, slightly dilated at the apex, corolla lobes about 10 x 4 mm. Stamens sessile, anthers about 7 x 0.4 mm, inserted in the throat of the corolla tube. Style about 21 mm long, stigma 3-lobed, about 4 mm long.

Fruit
Fruits about 10-15 mm diam. Seeds about 4-5 x 4 mm. Embryo paddle-shaped, cotyledons wider than the radicle.

Seedlings
Cotyledons +/- orbicular, about 8 x 6-7 mm. First pair of leaves stipulate, narrowly elliptic, margins smooth. At the tenth leaf stage: stipules interpetiolar, apex subulate. Straight thorns present in the leaf axils on lateral branches. Seed germination time 33 days.

Distribution and Ecology
Endemic to CYP, known only from collections made in the Claudie River and Bamaga areas. Altitudinal range small, from near sea level to 100 m. Grows as an understory plant in well developed rain forest.

RFK Code
3375