

Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants - Online edition

Family Profile

Rhamnaceae

Family Description

A family of 55 genera and 900 species, cosmopolitan but not common in tropical and subtropical regions; 16 genera occur naturally in Australia.

Genera

Alphitonia - A genus of more than 20 species in Asia, Malesia, Australia and the Pacific islands; seven or eight species occur naturally in Australia. Blake (1954); Braid (1925); Suessenguth (1953); White (1933, 1939). We are indebted to K. Thiele for information on ways to distinguish species of Alphitonia.

Colubrina - A genus of about 23 species in tropical and subtropical America, East Africa, Mauritius, Asia, Malesia, Australia and the Pacific islands; one species occurs naturally in Australia. Suessenguth (1953).

Emmenosperma - A genus of two to four species in Australia and New Caledonia; two or three species occur naturally in Australia. Suessenguth (1953); White (1933).

Gouania - A genus of about 70 species, pantropic; two species occur naturally in Australia. Suessenguth (1953); Thiele & West (1994).

Pomaderris - A genus of about 40 species in Australia and New Zealand; about 40 species occur naturally in Australia. Stanley & Ross (1986); Suessenguth (1953); Ross (1990); Walsh & Coates (1997).

Rhamnella - A genus of about nine species in Asia, the Pacific, New Guinea and eastern Australia; one species occurs naturally in Australia. Smith (1985); Kellerman & Thiele (2008).

Rhamnus - A genus of about 160 species, cosmopolitan; one species occurs naturally in Australia and one species has become naturalised. Stanley & Ross (1986).

Sageretia - A genus of 35 species, pantropic; one species occurs naturally in Australia. Suessenguth (1953).

Schistocarpea - A monotypic genus endemic to Australia. Bailey (1891); Mueller (1891); Suessenguth (1953); White (1933).

Ventilago - A genus of about 30-40 species in Africa, Madagascar, Asia, Malesia, Australia and the Pacific islands; three species occur naturally in Australia. Stanley & Ross (1986).

Ziziphus - A genus of 80-100 species, pantropic but extending into warm temperate regions; three or four species occur naturally in Australia and one species has become naturalised. Blake (1954); Suessenguth (1953).

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