**Rhodamnia blairiana** F.Muell.

**Family:** 
Myrtaceae


**Common name:** 
Small Malletwood; Rhodamnia; Blair’s Malletwood; Iron Malletwood

**Stem**
Dead bark layered, pores visible in darker layers. Living bark layer quite thin.

**Leaves**
Young shoots, twigs, and the underside of young leaves, densely clothed in short, rusty brown hairs. Leaf blade about 4-8 x 1.5-3 cm. The two main lateral veins arise near the base of the leaf blade but not at the very base, about 1-4 mm in from the edge.

**Flowers**
Inflorescence not exceeding the leaves, all parts clothed in a ferruginous pubescence, flowers solitary or in pairs. Calyx lobes about 4 mm long, pubescent on both the inner and outer surfaces. Petals orbicular, about 7 mm diam., pubescent on the outer surface. Ovary apex ferruginous-pubescent.

**Fruit**
Inflorescence not exceeding the leaves. Immature fruits clothed in a ferruginous pubescence. Calyx lobes persisting at the apex of the fruits. Fruits globular, about 12-15 mm diam. Seeds variable in shape, about 6 x 9 mm.

**Seedlings**
Cotyledons ovate, about 6-9 mm long, apex apiculate. Oil dots small, visible with a lens. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade ovate, apex acute or acuminate, base cuneate to obtuse, upper surface with a few pale hairs, underside densely clothed in pale, matted hairs except for the veins which are clothed in brown hairs, leaves strongly 3-veined; oil dots numerous, easily visible with a lens; petioles, stem and terminal bud clothed in reddish brown hairs. Seed germination time 46 to 76 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**
Endemic to NEQ, widespread throughout the area. Altitudinal range from 650-1200 m. Grows in well developed upland and mountain rain forest on a variety of sites but frequently found on soils derived from granite.

**Natural History & Notes**
An excellent small tree not yet widely cultivated. New growth is orange brown or rusty brown because of a dense covering of hairs. Does best in cool moist conditions.

**Synonyms**

**RFK Code**
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