**Strychnos lucida** R.Br.

**Family:**
Loganiaceae


**Common name:**
Strychnine Bush

**Stem**
A small tree seldom exceeding 30 cm dbh. Inner and outer blazes quite distinct. Fine stripes in the inner blaze.

**Leaves**
Twigs pale and marked by numerous, paler, circular lenticels. Leaf blades about 2.6-6.1 x 1.7-3.7 cm, much paler on the underside. Leaf shape variable, the blade always distinctly 3-veined. Midrib flush with the upper surface or slightly depressed towards the base.

**Flowers**
Calyx about 1-1.2 mm long. Corolla about 10-15 mm long, tube about 7-12 mm long, tube distinctly longer than the lobes. Stamens inserted in the throat of the tube, filaments short. Anthers about 1.2-1.8 mm long. Ovary about 1 mm diam., glabrous. Style about 12 mm long.

**Fruit**
Fruits globular, about 20-30 mm diam. Seeds about 12-15 x 10-12 mm, densely short pubescent.

**Seedlings**
Cotyledons +/- cordate, about 25-30 mm long, glabrous. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade lanceolate, apex acuminate, base cuneate, glabrous and without spines in the axils. Seed germination time 110 to 229 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**
Occurs in WA, NT, CYP and NEQ. Altitudinal range from sea level to 450 m. Grows in monsoon forest and gallery forest. Also occurs in SE Asia and Malesia.

**Natural History & Notes**
Although this species is suspected of being poisonous to stock the evidence is not completely convincing. Everist (1974).

**Synonyms**

**RFK Code**
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