

Syzygium kuranda (F.M.Bailey) B.Hyland

Family:
Myrtaceae

Hyland, B.P.M. (1983) *Australian Journal of Botany Supplementary Series* 9: 96.

Common name:

Cherry Penda; Cherry Satinash; Kuranda Satinash; Penda, Cherry; Satinash, Kuranda; Satinash, Cherry; Watergum

Stem

Bark generally pale brown. Powdery or rotten material often present between and under the bark flakes.

Leaves

Oil dots sparse, visible with a lens or the naked eye. Leaf blades rather thick and fleshy, about 6.3-11.6 x 2.4-4.8 cm. Midrib grooved or depressed on the upper surface at least towards the base.

Flowers

Bracts deciduous, absent at anthesis. Calyx tube (hypanthium) + pedicel about 6.5-9 mm long, calyx tube (hypanthium) about 5-8.5 mm diam., calyx lobes slightly dimorphic, inner lobes slightly larger, rounded to almost orbicular, about 2-4 mm long. Petals +/- orbicular or rounded, about 4-5 mm diam., oil dots sometimes visible, about 10-20 per petal. Outer staminal filaments about 8-12 mm long, anthers about 0.8 x 0.8 mm, gland inconspicuous. Ovules about 18-24 per locule, placentas central, ovules radiating, ascending. Style about 8-15 mm long, approximating the stamens.

Fruit

Fruits globular or depressed transversely ovoid and slightly bilobed (scrotiform), about 35-40 mm long and about 40-45 x 40 mm on the longer and shorter diameters, calyx lobes absent, pericarp firm, somewhat brittle, granular in texture, surface scurfy. Seeds one or two per fruit, about 20-25 mm long, about 30-40 x 20-30 mm on the longer and shorter diameters, testa adhering somewhat to the pericarp and adhering to the cotyledons by numerous peg-like intrusions, cotyledons uniformly textured except for the +/- ruminant peripheral section. Radicle central.

Seedlings

Cataphylls about 3-6 pairs. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade ovate or elliptic to elongate-elliptic, apex acuminate, base cuneate to attenuate, glabrous; oil dots small, visible with a lens. Seed germination time 20 to 72 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ, restricted to the area between Cooktown and Tully. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1100 m. Grows in well developed rain forest on a variety of sites.

Natural History & Notes

Fallen fruit eaten by Cassowaries. Cooper & Cooper (1994).

A very strong tree that would be good for parks and larger gardens. Flowering occurs in dense clusters along the branches.

This species produces millable logs and the timber is marketed as Kuranda Satinash, a very useful general purpose structural timber which enjoyed a good reputation in North Queensland. Wood specific gravity 0.86-0.88. Hyland (1983).

Synonyms

Eugenia kuranda F.M.Bailey, *The Queensland Flora* 2: 658(1900), Type: Johnson, Dr. Thos. L. Bancroft; Barron river, E. Cowley.

RFK Code

3



Flowers. © G. Sankowsky



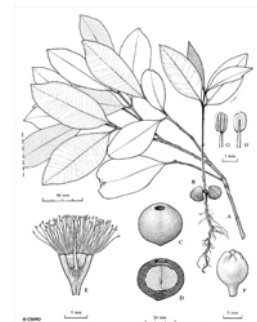
Leaves, fruit and ramiflorous buds.

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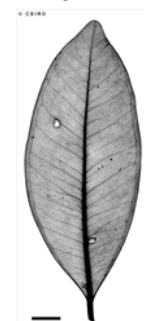


Fruits, side views, bird's eye view, transverse section and seed. ©

W.T. Cooper



Habit, flower & bud, anther, fruit, seedling. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, hypogeal germination. © CSIRO

