

Wilkiea rigidifolia (A.C.Sm.) Whiffin & Foreman

Family:
Monimiaceae

Whiffin, T & Foreman, D. (2007) *Flora of Australia* 2: 451.

Stem

Oak grain in the wood and a corresponding pattern in the inner blaze.

Leaves

Leaf blades usually quite large, about 13-20 x 6-9 cm, thick and leathery in texture; apex variable, sometimes ending in a point projecting from the midrib. Lateral veins forming loops inside the blade margin; marginal teeth, if present, quite stiff and sharp. Small oil dots visible with a lens. Oak grain in the twigs.

Flowers

Flowers about 3 mm diam. with an ostiole at the slightly domed or flattened apex. Flowers with thickened glands around the inner surface of the ostiole. Female flowers +/- operculate. Carpels glabrous, stigmas +/- sessile.

Fruit

Receptacle orange, somewhat fleshy, about 10-15 mm wide. Fruiting carpels globular, about 14 x 12 mm. Seed about 12 x 11 mm. Embryo about 5-6 mm long.

Seedlings

Cotyledons broadly ovate or oblong, conspicuously 3-veined. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade elliptic or elongate-elliptic, apex acute or acuminate, base cuneate or attenuate, margin serrate, teeth with a sharp apical point, 8-12 each side of the leaf blade, glabrous. Seed germination time 46 to 73 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CYP and NEQ. Altitudinal range from sea level to 300 m. Grows as an understory tree in monsoon forest and drier, more seasonal rain forest. Also occurs in New Guinea.

Synonyms

Kibara rigidifolia A.C.Smith, *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum* 22: 243(1941), Type: New Guinea, Lower Fly River, Sturt Island, Oct 1936, L. J. Brass 8216; iso: BRI. *Wilkiea* sp. (Somerset L.J. Webb+ 11845), *Queensland Plants* : 120(1997). *Wilkiea* sp. (Somerset L.J. Webb+ 11845), *Queensland Vascular Plants Names & Distribution* : 193(1993).

RFK Code

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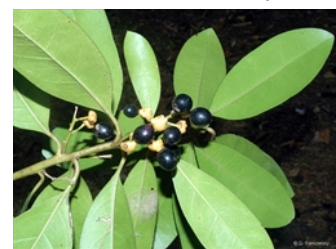
Flowers. © CSIRO



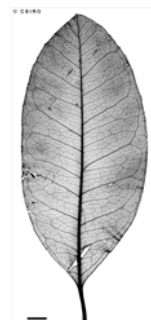
Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



Fruit © G. Sankowsky



Leaves and fruit. © G. Sankowsky



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

