

Abrophyllum ornans (F.Muell.) Hook.f. ex Benth.

Family:

Rousseaceae

Bentham, G. (1864) *Flora Australiensis* 2: 437.

Common name:

Abrophyllum; Beautiful Abrophyllum; Native Hydrangea

Stem

Grows into a tree seldom exceeding 30 cm dbh, but also flowers and fruits as a shrub.

Leaves

Leaf blades about 11-20 x 3-7 cm, petioles about 3 cm long. Main lateral veins and some reticulate veins depressed on the upper surface of the leaf blade. Marginal teeth comparatively small and papillose. Twig pith septate.

Flowers

Petals about 4-5 mm long. Ovary orange, style, if present, very short, stigma usually 5-lobed, occasionally 4-lobed.

Fruit

Fruits about 8-12 mm long. Seeds small. Testa translucent brown, finely rugose.

Seedlings

Cotyledons elliptic, about 1-1.5 mm long. First pair of leaves clothed in simple hairs. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade margin serrate with teeth all around the margin; both the upper and lower leaf surfaces clothed in simple hairs, likewise the stem and terminal bud. Seed germination time 47 to 129 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Australia, occurs in CYP, NEQ, CEQ and southwards to south-eastern New South Wales. Altitudinal range in NEQ from 300-1200 m. Grows as an understory tree in well developed upland and mountain rain forest but more frequently as a regrowth species in disturbed areas.

Synonyms

Brachynema ornans F.Muell., *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 3: 90(1862), Type: Ad ripas fluminis Richmond prope Ballina. C. Moore. **Abrophyllum ornans** var. **microcarpum** F.M.Bailey, *Queensland Agricultural Journal* 24: 221(1910), Type: Dunk Island, E.J. Banfield. **Abrophyllum ornans** (F.Muell.) Benth. var. **ornans**, *Queensland Agricultural Journal* 24: 221(1910). **Abrophyllum microcarpum** (Bailey) Domin, *Bibliotheca Botanica* 89(4): 705(1928).

RFK Code

404



Flower. © Barry Jago



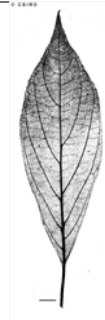
Leaves, flowers and immature fruit. © CSIRO



Fruit. © CSIRO



Fruit, three side views and cross section. © W. T. Cooper



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

