

Citronella smythii (F.Muell.) R.A.Howard

Family:

lcacinaceae

Howard, R.A. (1940) *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum* 21: 475.

Common name:

Soapbox, Beech, Northern Silky; White Oak; Beech, Silky; Northern Silky Beech; Silky Beech; Oak, White

Stem

Seldom exceeding 45 cm dbh. Oak grain in the wood. Living bark layer quite thin.

Leaves

Young shoots and twigs densely clothed in rusty or yellowish brown erect hairs. Leaf blades about 11-17 x 4-8.5 cm. Midrib depressed on the upper surface. Oak grain in the twigs.

Flowers

Inflorescence usually a raceme of heads. Petals about 3-4.5 mm long. Ovary +/- glabrous. Usually one style developed but one or two vestigial styles usually visible. Stigma terminal, not much wider than the style and less than 1/4 of the diameter of the ovary.

Fruit

Fruits 12-16 mm long. Seeds with a longitudinal groove formed by the intrusion of the endocarp.

Seedlings

Cotyledons ovate, about 39-45 x 30-38 mm, petioles hairy. First leaf blades ovate-elliptic, with both surfaces clothed in hairs. Hypocotyl clothed in hairs. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves hairy on the upper surface at least along the midrib and main lateral veins; terminal bud, stem, petiole and expanding leaves densely hairy. Seed germination time 12 to 181 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Queensland, occurs in CYP (as far north as Mt Carter) and NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1200 m. Grows as an understory tree in well developed rain forest on a variety of sites.

Natural History & Notes

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

Synonyms

***Chariessa smythii* (F.Muell.) Becc.**, *Malesia* 1 : 118(1877). ***Villaresia smythii* F.Muell.**, *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 5: 156(1865), Type: Ad sinum Rockingham Bay. Dallachy. ***Villaresia adenophylla* Domin**, *Bibliotheca Botanica* 89(4): 604(1928), Type: Nord-Queensland: Regenwalder bei Harveys Creek (DOMIN I. 1910).

RFK Code

6



Flower. © Barry Jago



Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



Flowers. © CSIRO



Fruit, two views and cross section.

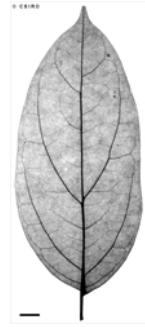
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Leaves and fruit. © A. Ford & F.

Goulter



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



1st leaf stage. © CSIRO

