

Diploglottis diphylostegia (F.Muell.) F.M.Bailey

Family:

Sapindaceae

Bailey, F.M. (1885) *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland* 1: 148.

Common name:

Wild Tamarind; Tamarind, Northern; Northern Tamarind; Tamarind, Wild; Tamarind; Tamarind, Native; Native Tamarind

Stem

Sapwood surface corrugated. Lenticels small, 1 mm or less in diameter, exhibiting an extruded appearance.

Leaves

Leaf bearing twigs, compound leaf rhachis and leaflet stalks clothed in erect, brown hairs. Leaf bearing twigs longitudinally grooved. Compound leaf rhachis with two grooves on the upper surface. Leaflet blades about 4.5-9 x 2-8 cm. Midrib raised and often hairy on the upper surface. Leaflet stalk short and swollen at its junction with the compound leaf rhachis.

Flowers

Inflorescence usually with rusty hairs. Young inflorescence bracts about 3-7 x 1-3 mm. Flowers about 4-5 mm diam. Calyx shortly cupular, lobes five, ovate, subequal, flat, not concave. Fifth petal usually reduced. Disk yellow-orange, +/- horseshoe-shaped. Stamens eight.

Fruit

Fruit about 10-17 x 15-28 mm. Seeds flattened, about 10 mm wide, completely enveloped by the aril. Fruits shortly tomentose externally.

Seedlings

At the tenth leaf stage: leaf or leaflet blades elliptic, apex acuminate, hairy on the upper surface; petiole and rhachis of compound leaf and stem clothed in long pale brown hairs. Seed germination time 41 to 63 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Queensland, occurs in CYP and NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 900 m. Grows in well developed rain forest on a variety of sites but is probably more frequent in drier, more seasonal rain forest.

Natural History & Notes

A commonly cultivated and attractive tree. Produces a dense shady crown and conspicuous crops of yellow fruits with orange arils.

The aril is edible and is sometimes used to make a refreshing drink.

Synonyms

Diploglottis cunninghamii var. *diphylostegia* J.F.Bailey, *Queensland Agricultural Journal* 5(4): 396(1899). *Diploglottis cunninghamii* var. *muelleri* F.M.Bailey, *The Queensland Flora* 1: 287(1899). *Diploglottis australis* var. *muelleri* (Bailey) Radlk., *Engler's Das Pflanzenreich Heft* 98: 1226(1933). *Cupania diphylostegia* F.Muell., *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 5: 145(1865), Type: In silvis ad sinum Rockingham Bay. J.Dallachy. Meunga Ck., 30 Sept. 1865, MEL. Fide Reynolds (1985).

RFK Code

380



Flowers and buds. © Barry Jago



Fruiting habit and leaves. © B. Gray



Fruit and dehiscent fruit. © Stanley Breedon



Fruit, dehiscent, arilous seeds and seed. © W. T. Cooper



Cotyledon stage, hypogeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO

