Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants - Online edition

Tephrosia oblongata R.Br. ex Benth.

Family:

Fabaceae

Bentham, G. (1864) Flora Australiensis 2: 205. Type: N. Australia. Islands of the gulf of Carpentaria, R. Brown.

Stem

Usually flowers and fruits as a shrub about 1-2 m tall.

Leaves

Terminal leaflet longer than the lateral leaflets. Terminal leaflet blade about 6.6-7.2 x 2-2.7 cm, stalk about 3-4 mm long. Lateral leaflet blades about 3.2-6.3 x 1.7-2.3 cm, stalks about 3-4 mm long. Stems, twigs, petioles and stipules densely clothed in hairs. Upper surface of the leaflet blades +/-glabrous except for the midribs. Stipules about 8 mm long.

Flowers

Flowers about 10 x 8 mm. Outer surface of the calyx densely clothed in hairs. Calyx tube about 2 mm long, lobes unequal, about 2-3 mm long. Corolla lobes about 10 mm long. Stamens 10, the filaments of nine stamens fused to form a tube about 5-6 mm long open on one side. The filament of one stamen

Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO

completely free from the others. Stamens alternately long and short. Ovary about 7-8 mm long, densely clothed in hairs. Ovules about nine per ovary.

Fruit

Fruits linear, about 50-75 x 3-5 mm, clothed in sericeous hairs. Seeds about 10-12 per fruit.

Seedlings

Features not available.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in WA, NT and the Gulf Region of NEQ. Altitudinal range not certain but probably extends from near sea level to 200 m. Grows in a variety of habitats, sometimes found in monsoon forest and vine thicket.

Natural History & Notes

This species is of no grazing significance. Hacker (1990).

RFK Code

3538

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