



Cryptocarya rigida – family: LAURACEAE

ROSE MAPLE

Shrub or small tree ± 10 metres

Small white flowers in summer

Semi-sweet edible fruit ripen January to May

Cultivation: Hardy and easily grown in poor soil types; prefers semi-shade.

Found in coastal subtropical and warm-temperate rainforest, especially on their margins, and in tall eucalypt forest; north from Wyong NSW to S.E. Qld, this is a hardy shrub or small tree, although it may, in an ideal



rainforest situation, grow to a height of 30 metres. It has glossy grey green foliage and a straight trunk which generally shows some flanging. The bark is grey, with a thin corky layer. Leaves are simple and entire, often broadest at the base, 6 to 13 cm long tapering to a long point. The upper surface is green. The underside is pale, nearly white. The wood is useful as a cabinet timber, particularly used as a veneer.



The black fruit, which ripens from late summer to autumn attracts rainforest doves and pigeons.