



*Ficus fraseri*- family: MORACEAE

## SANDPAPER FIG — WHITE SANDPAPER FIG

Rainforest or vine scrub tree 6 — 15 metres  
Edible fruit ripens through green, yellow, orange to black.

**Cultivation:** Hardy and fast growing, especially in rich soil with plenty of moisture; may become deciduous for a short time in cold areas; of the two Sandpaper Figs this is the larger and more spreading.



It varies considerably in habit from a small open-branched tree of 6m to a 15m tree with a dense round canopy. It seems to favour situations where it receives a good deal of direct sunshine and areas that have rocky or stony soils. It grows from the Hunter River in NSW to the Atherton Tableland in Qld. Leaves have a 'sandpapery' texture but are less coarse than the other Sandpaper Fig, *Ficus coronata*. The fruit is edible but with a fairly 'pallid' flavour. In spite of its general hardiness and attractive appearance, it has been rarely used in horticulture.



The fruits ripen at different stages and provide food over an extended period for fruit-eating birds, particularly fig birds and Flying Foxes. The fruits are often available for birds in spring when food is otherwise scarce.