



*Pittosporum spinescens* – family: **PITTOSPORACEAE**  
(syn *Citriobatus spinescens*)

## **NATIVE LIME – LARGE-FRUITED ORANGE THORN**

An upright open evergreen shrub  $\pm 3$  metres  
Small sweetly-scented white flowers in spring  
Bright orange edible berries in summer

**Cultivation:** Hardy and fast growing in cool sun to partial shade; frost tolerant.

This small open shrub grows in the dry sclerophyll forests, dry rainforests and moist scrublands north from N.E. NSW to S.E. Qld and W.A. Its hairy branches bear many narrow spine-like thorns and the small green leaves are shiny and rounded. In the spring the small white flowers appear in the leaf axils and are followed by edible bright



orange, thick-shelled berries. The flavour of the berries is described as very mild and slightly sweet. A favorite with macropods – another common name is ‘*wallaby apple*’ – its fruits were strychnine-spiked in the 1940s by graziers to reduce wallaby numbers. Pruning will give the shrub a formal, hedged effect.

It provides a nesting refuge for small birds and also attracts butterflies to the garden.