



# Flora of Australia

## *Tapeinosperma Hook.f.*

Author: Betsy R. Jackes

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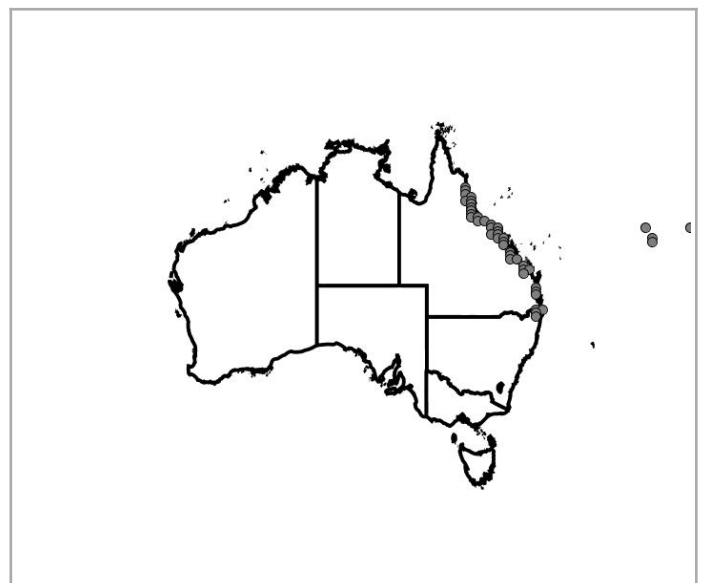
## ***Tapeinosperma* Hook.f.**

- Bentham, G. & Hooker, J.D. (May 1876), *Genera Plantarum* 2(2) : 647

Betsy R. Jackes

Shrubs or small trees. Leaves simple, alternate to subopposite, often crowded towards the ends of branches, petiolate; lamina obovate to oblanceolate, base cuneate, venation obvious, glands globular, irregularly rounded to lineate. Inflorescence paniculate, arising from the axils of the uppermost leaves, bud scales lanceolate, caducous; pedicel length varies with the stage of development. Flowers bisexual, 5-merous, glands rounded and/or lineate; calyx deeply divided; corolla urceolate, tube longer than or equal to the lobes (Australian species), glands if present globose, dark red; stamens with filaments fused at base to the corolla tube, ligulate distally, anthers dorsifixed near base, longitudinally dehiscent; ovary superior, attenuating into a slender style which elongates after anthesis; stigma small and discoid; ovules in Australian species 4–7, embedded in placenta. Fruit a drupe, globose, reddish, numerous glands present, endocarp crustaceous often angled; style usually persistent. Seed one, size various, embryo transverse, thin, curved, cotyledons elongate.

*Distribution:* Genus of c. 60 species, chiefly from the New Guinea region, Australia, New Caledonia and eastwards to Fiji. The 3 endemic Australian species extend from N Queensland along the eastern coastline to far northeastern New South Wales.



*Etymology:* From the Greek *tapeinos* (low or humble), and *sperma* (seed), referring to the small seed.

*Diagnostic Features:* See Jackes (2005).

**Nomenclature and Typification:** *Tapeinosperma* Hook.f., in G. Bentham & J.D. Hooker, *Gen. Pl.* 2: 647 (1867). Lectotype: *Tapeinosperma vieillardii* Hook.f., *vide* Sleumer (1988: 102)

**Taxonomic Notes:** The genus has been confused with both *Discocalyx* (*Tapeinosperma* is sometimes included in *Discocalyx*) and *Ardisia*. It may be readily separated from the former by the presence of bisexual flowers; stamens basally adnate to the corolla tube, but distally free and anthers are dorsifixed rather than anthers appearing almost sessile or appearing basifixed on the corolla tube; and the long slender style. It may be distinguished from the latter by the distinctly free portion of the filament, the slender style is about as long as the ovary rather than about twice as long, and in Australia by the large paniculate inflorescences.

In Australia, two species now placed in *Tapeinosperma* (*viz.* *T. pseudojambosa*, *T. repandulam*) were initially recognised and described as belonging to *Ardisia*, and for a time *Embelia flueckigeri* F.Muell. was treated as *Tapeinosperma flueckigeri* (F.Muell.) Mez; see Jackes (2005: 99) for details. *Ardisia repandula* F.Muell. has been reinstated under the combination *Tapeinosperma repandulam* (F.Muell.) Jackes, separating it from *Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa* (F. Muell.) Mez. *Tapeinosperma repandulam* is currently not recognised in New South Wales (*Australian Plant Census* and *New South Wales Flora Online*, both accessed 31 March 2021), but appears to still be treated as part of *T. pseudojambosa* in that state, *viz.* "rare in N.S.W., Broken Head and McPherson Ra.", following Harden (1990). - Editor, 31 March 2021.

**Bibliography:** Cooper, W. & Cooper, W.T. (2004). *Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest*. (Nokomis Editions: Melbourne).

Harden, G.J. (1990). Myrsinaceae, in Harden, G.J. (ed.), *Flora of New South Wales* 1: 501–504. (New South Wales University Press: Kensington); *Tapeinosperma* pp. 502–503.

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Mez, C. (1902). Myrsinaceae, in Engler, A. (ed.), *Das Pflanzenreich* Heft 9, IV. Fam. 236: 1–473. (Verlag von Wilhelm Engelmann: Leipzig); *Tapeinosperma* pp. 162–171.

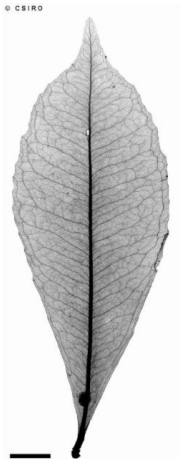
Sleumer, H. (1988). The genera *Discocalyx* Mez, *Fittingia* Mez, *Loheria* Merr. and *Tapeinosperma* Hook.f. (Myrsinaceae) in New Guinea. *Blumea* 33: 81–107.

Ståhl, A. & Anderberg, A.A. (2004). Myrsinaceae, in Kubitzki, K. (ed.), *The Families and Genera of Vascular Plants* 6: 266–281. (Springer: Berlin).

Stanley, T.D. (1986). Myrsinaceae, in Stanley, T.D. & Ross, E.M., *Flora of South-eastern Queensland* 2: 266–268. (Queensland Department of Primary Industries: Brisbane); *Tapeinosperma* p. 268.

**Source:** Published 31 March 2021.

## Images



**Fig. 1:** '*Tapeinosperma pallidum*' by Unknown (© Australian National Botanic Gardens)



**Fig. 2:** '*Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa*' by Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (© Royal Botanic Gardens Board)



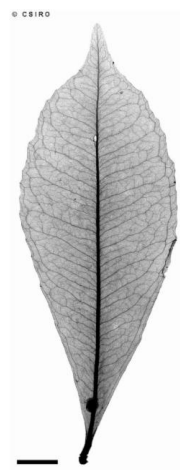
**Fig. 3:** '*Tapeinosperma repandulum*' by Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (© Royal Botanic Gardens Board)



**Fig. 4:** '*Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa*' by Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (© Royal Botanic Gardens Board)



**Fig. 5:** '*Tapeinosperma pallidum*' by Unknown (© Centre for National Biodiversity Research)



**Fig. 6:** '*Tapeinosperma pallidum*' by Unknown (© Centre for National Biodiversity Research)



## Acknowledgements

Editor

P.G. Kodela

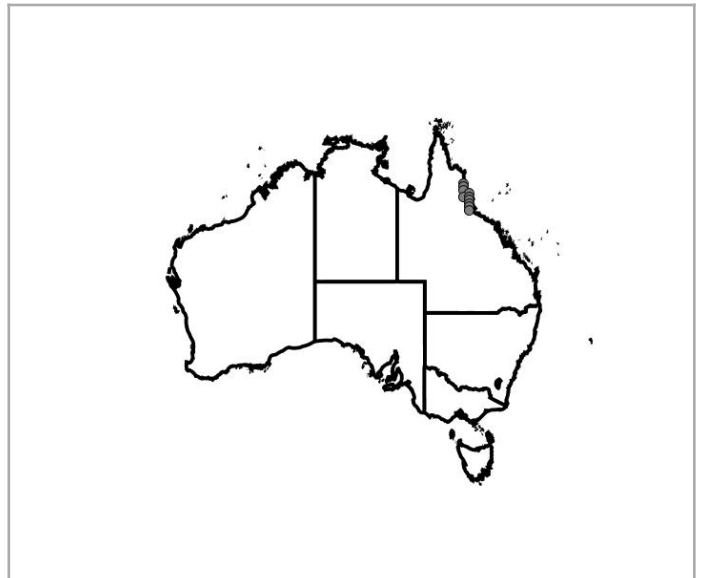
## *Tapeinosperma pallidum* Jackes

- Jackes, B.R. (21 December 2005) , Studies in Australian Myrsinaceae: *Tapeinosperma* Hook.f. *Austrobaileya* 7(1) : 101-103, Figs 1, 2, 5, 6, Map 1

Betsy R. Jackes

Shrub or small tree 2–9 m high; bark brownish. Leaves: petiole (0.5–) 1–4 mm long; lamina obovate to oblanceolate or ± narrowly elliptic, rarely tapering abruptly to an acuminate apex, 7–12.2 cm long, 2–3.6 cm wide [4–15.8 (–18) cm long, 1.2–4.2 (–5.6) cm wide, *vide* Jackes (2005: 102)], margin irregularly serrulate to crenulate, glands small, scattered, (?red and) pellucid, globular and lineate, rarely less than 8 per areole. Inflorescence 4–20 cm long, 4–12 cm wide, bud scales usually prominent, branches reddish; pedicels 2–10 mm long, often curving and lengthening after anthesis, glands pellucid. Flowers usually 2.5–3 mm long, glands pellucid; calyx 1–1.5 mm long; corolla creamy-green to white, rarely a pink tinge, lobes often slightly reflexed. Stamens: filaments 0.5–1 mm long, anthers 1.5–2 mm long, awl-shaped, some uniseriate hairs present on adaxial surface; ovary globular 0.7–1 mm long, style 2–3 mm long, pellucid glands present; ovules 4 or 5. Fruit globular to depressed globular, 5–8 mm long, 6–8 mm wide, red; style persistent.

*Distribution*: N Queensland from S of Cooktown to N of Ingham.



*Etymology*: "From the Latin *pallidus* – pale, referring to the pale-coloured flowers where only pellucid glands are present in the calyx and corolla."

*Common Name*: *Tapeinosperma*.

**Diagnostic Features:** When flowering, this species is easily recognised by the absence of dark-coloured glands in the calyx and corolla.

**Phenology:** Flowers August–December; fruits November–September.

**Biostatus:** Native.

**Habitat:** Rainforests.

**Representative Herbarium Specimens:** Qld: Kirrama Range State Forest Reserve 344, c. 38 km NW Kennedy, *D.G. Fell 2000* (BISH, BRI, CANB, CNS, MEL); Johnstone River, *N. Michael 25* (BRI); Downfall Creek area near northern shore of Tinaroo Falls Dam, *V.K. Moriarty 1139* (CANB, CNS, NSW); Mount Finnegan, S of Cooktown, *L.J. Webb & J.G. Tracey 10856* (BRI, K).

**Nomenclature and Typification:** ***Tapeinosperma pallidum* Jackes**, *Austrobaileya* 7(1): 101 (2005). Type: Keough's scrub, Portion 53V, Herberton, Qld, 20 Nov. 1973, *B.P. Hyland 7111*; holo: QRS; iso: BRI, CANB, CNS, NSW. *Tapeinosperma* sp. Cedar Bay (*J.G. Tracey 14780*), L.W. Jessup in R.J.F. Henderson (ed.), *Myrsinaceae. Names and Distribution of Queensland Plants, Algae and Lichens* 119 (2002)

**Illustrations:** W. Cooper & W.T. Cooper, *Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest* 337 (2004), as *Tapeinosperma* sp. (Cedar Bay); B.R. Jackes, *Austrobaileya* 7(1): 103, fig. 1; 104, fig. 2; 109, figs 5A & 6A (2005). F.A. Zich *et al.*, *Tapeinosperma pallidum*, in *Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants* Edn 8 (2020): [https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/text/entities/tapeinosperma\\_pallidum.htm](https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/text/entities/tapeinosperma_pallidum.htm) [accessed 16 March 2021]

**Bibliography:** Cooper, W. & Cooper, W.T. (2004). *Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest*. (Nokomis Editions: Melbourne), as *Tapeinosperma* sp. (Cedar Bay).  
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Zich, F.A., Hyland, B.P.M., Whiffin, T. & Kerrigan, R.A. (2020). *Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants*. Edition 8. <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/> [accessed 16 March 2021]

**Source:** Published 31 March 2021.

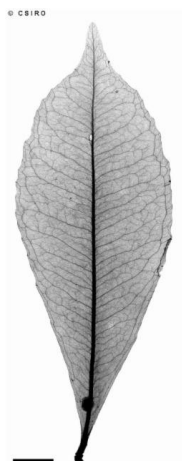
## Nomenclature

Jackes, B.R. (21 December 2005), Studies in Australian Myrsinaceae: *Tapeinosperma* Hook.f. *Austrobaileya* 7(1) : 101-103, Figs 1, 2, 5, 6, Map 1

**Type:** Queensland. North Kennedy District: Keough's scrub, Portion 53V, Herberton, 17 30'S, 145 28'E, 20 November 1973, B.P. Hyland 7111 (holo: QRS34393; iso: QRS34394, BRI, CANB, NSW).  
taxonomic synonym: *Tapeinosperma* sp. (Cedar Bay J.G.Tracey 14780): 102



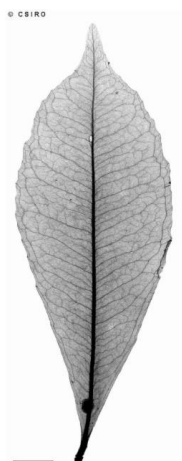
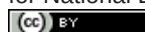
## Images



**Fig. 1:** '*Tapeinosperma pallidum*' by Unknown (© Australian National Botanic Gardens)



**Fig. 2:** '*Tapeinosperma pallidum*' by Unknown (© Centre for National Biodiversity Research)



**Fig. 3:** '*Tapeinosperma pallidum*' by Unknown (© Centre for National Biodiversity Research)



## Acknowledgements

Editor

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## *Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa* (F.Muell.) Mez

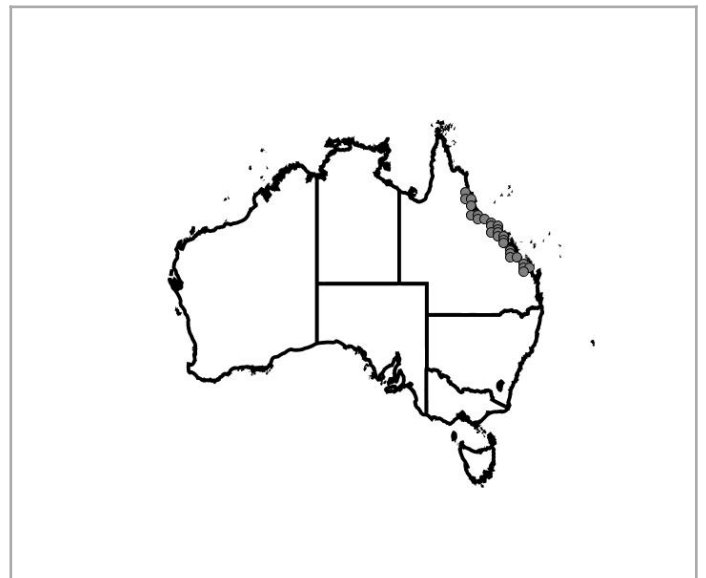
- Schulz, O.E. in Engler, H.G.A. (22 July 1924), Cruciferae. *Das Pflanzenreich* 86 : 170

Betsy R. Jackes

Shrub or small tree (1–) 2–12 m high. Leaves: petiole 2–4 mm long [1–6 cm long, *fide* Jackes (2005: 103)]; lamina broadly obovate, usually abruptly tapering to obtuse [acuminate, *fide* Jackes (2005: 103)] apex, 7.5–15 cm long, 3.2–5.6 cm wide [7–17.3 cm long, 2.2–6.5 cm wide, *fide* Jackes (2005: 103)], margin entire or slightly crenate, with scattered small globular red glands and globular to shortly lineate pellucid glands, c. 4 per areole. Inflorescence 3–10 cm long, 3–9 cm wide; pedicels 4–9 mm long. Flowers 3–4 mm long, dark-coloured glands prominent on calyx, corolla and often pedicel and style, pellucid glands also present; calyx 1–1.5 mm long; corolla creamy-green to reddish, glands orange when fresh, drying dark, appearing verrucose; stamens: filaments short, ligulate, anthers 2–2.5 mm long, awl-shaped; ovary c. 1 mm long, 1–1.5 mm wide, style usually 2–3 mm long, glands red; ovules 6 or 7. Fruit depressed-globular, 6–7 mm long, 7–8 mm wide, dark pink to red, glands black when dry.

*Distribution:* Extends from W of Cardwell to Many Peaks Range WNW of Bundaberg with an altitudinal range of 70–600 m, Queensland.

[Also occurs in New South Wales according to the *Australian Plant Census* (accessed 31 March 2021); reported as rare in NE New South Wales, c. Broken Head and McPherson Ra., in the *New South Wales Flora Online* (accessed 31 March 2021) following Harden (1990). Reference to *Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa* in New South Wales is likely to now refer to *T. repandulum* - see Jackes (2005) and Taxonomic Notes under genus - Editor, March 2021.]



*Etymology:* "From the Latin *pseudo* - false, and the genus *Jambosa* Adans., a synonym of *Syzygium* indicating that it is similar in appearance to certain species of *Syzygium*."

*Common Name:* *Tapeinosperma*.

*Diagnostic Features:* When flowering, this species is easily recognised by the absence of dark-coloured glands in the calyx and corolla.

*Phenology:* Flowers July–February; fruits November–July.

*Biostatus:* Native.

*Habitat:* Found in marginal rainforest on a variety of substrates.

**Representative Herbarium Specimens:** Qld: Dugong Inlet, Whitsunday Island, G.N. Batianoff 900991A (BISH, BRI, LAE); Rockhampton, A. Dietrich 1501 (MEL); State Forest Reserve 344, Kirrama Rd c. 1 km NNW of Mount Collins, site 62, A. Ford 3494 & J. Holmes (BRI, CNS); Granite Creek, Bulburin State Forest, G.P. Guymer 1819 & H.A. Dillewaard (BRI, CANB).

**Nomenclature and Typification:** *Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa* (F. Muell.) Mez, *Das Pflanzenreich* 9(IV:236): 170 (1902); *Ardisia pseudojambosa* F.Muell., *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 4(26): 81 (1864); *Bladhia pseudojambosa* (F.Muell.) F.Muell., *The Victorian Naturalist* 8(1): 16 (1891), *nom. inval.*, *nom. nud.* Type: Mount Elliot, [Qld], Fitzalan s.n.; lecto: MEL1612770; isolecto: MEL1612768, selected by B.R. Jackes, *Austrobaileya* 7(1): 103 (2005).

**Illustrations:** B.R. Jackes, *Austrobaileya* 7(1): 106, fig. 3; 109, figs 5B & 6B (2005); G.J. Harden et al., *Rainforest Trees and Shrubs* 75 & 118 (2006).  
F.A. Zich et al., *Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa*, in *Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants* Edn 8 (2020): [https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/text/entities/tapeinosperma\\_pseudojambosa.htm](https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/text/entities/tapeinosperma_pseudojambosa.htm) [accessed 16 March 2021]

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Harden, G.J., McDonald, W.J.F. & Williams, J.B. (2006). *Rainforest Trees and Shrubs. A field guide to their identification in Victoria, New South Wales and subtropical Queensland using vegetative features*. (Gwen Harden Publishing: Nambucca Heads).  
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Mez, C. (1902). Myrsinaceae, in Engler, A. (ed.), *Das Pflanzenreich* Heft 9, IV. Fam. 236: 1–473. (Verlag von Wilhelm Engelmann: Leipzig); *Tapeinosperma* pp. 162–171.  
Stanley, T.D. (1986). Mysinaceae, in Stanley, T.D. & Ross, E.M., *Flora of South-eastern Queensland* 2: 266–268. (Queensland Department of Primary Industries: Brisbane); *Tapeinosperma* p. 268.  
Zich, F.A., Hyland, B.P.M., Whiffin, T. & Kerrigan, R.A. (2020). *Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants*. Edition 8. <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/> [accessed 16 March 2021]

Source: Published 31 March 2021.

## Nomenclature

CHAH (2007), *Australian Plant Census*

nomenclatural synonym: *Ardisia pseudojambosa* F.Muell.

nomenclatural synonym: *Bladhia pseudojambosa* (F.Muell.) F.Muell.

taxonomic synonym: *Tapeinosperma* sp.

## Images



**Fig. 1:** '*Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa*' by Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (© Royal Botanic Gardens Board)



**Fig. 2:** '*Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa*' by Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (© Royal Botanic Gardens Board)

## Acknowledgements

Editor

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## *Tapeinosperma repandulum* (F.Muell.) Jackes

- Jackes, B.R. (21 December 2005), Studies in Australian Myrsinaceae: *Tapeinosperma* Hook.f. *Austrobaileya* 7(1) : 105, 107, Figs 4, 5, 6, Map 1

Betsy R. Jackes

Shrub 1–3 m high [or small tree to 5 m high, *vide* Jackes (2005: 105)]; twigs often angular. Leaves: petiole 2–3 (–4) mm long; lamina obovate to oblanceolate, occasionally lanceolate, tapering to an acuminate apex, 7.8–19.3 cm long, 2.3–5.6 cm wide, margin irregularly serrulate to crenulate, glands pellucid globular and lineate, small globular red glands rare, c. 6–8 per areole. Inflorescence 2–7 (–8) cm long, 2–3 cm wide; pedicels 3–7 (–9) mm long, with dark-coloured lineate gland, elongating and curving as fruit matures. Flowers c. 3 mm long, calyx c. 1 mm long; corolla 2.5–3 mm long, cream, glands concentrated into the median area of the lobes, drying black; stamens: filaments 1 mm long, anthers 2 mm long, awl-shaped; ovary c. 1 mm diam., style 2.5–3 mm long, glands dark; ovules 4 or 5. Fruit depressed-globular, 6–7 mm long, c. 8 mm wide, dark pink to red.

*Distribution:* This species is found along streams and in rainforest areas from the Gympie area, Queensland, S to the northern rivers area of New South Wales with an altitudinal range of 80–700 m.



*Etymology:* "From the Latin *repandus* - margin is wavy or somewhat uneven, referring to the margin of the leaf lamina."

*Common Name:* Southern Tapeinosperma.

*Diagnostic Features:* This species is readily distinguished by the dark-coloured glands which are concentrated in the centre of the corolla lobes.

*Phenology:* Flowers December–March; fruits October–June.

*Biostatus:* Native.

*Habitat:* Along streams and in subtropical rainforest areas, often in very moist habitats within these forests.

*Representative Herbarium Specimens:* Qld: Couchy Creek, below Sphinx Lookout, Springbrook, A.G. Floyd 351 (BRI, CANB, NSW); c. 0.6 km SE of Mount Wagawn, G.P. Guymmer 2109 (BRI); State Forest 393 Woodum, c.15 km SE of Gympie, W.J. McDonald 4262 (BISH, BRI, MO). N.S.W.: Oxley River, c. 12 km NW of Tyalgum, K.A. Williams & L.H. Bird 86005 (BRI).

*Nomenclature and Typification:* ***Tapeinosperma repandulum* (F.Muell.) Jackes**, *Austrobaileya* 7(1): 105 (2005); *Ardisia repandula* F.Muell., *Fragm.* 4(26): 82 (1864). Type: Richmond River, [N.S.W.], C. Moore s.n.; lecto: MEL 654257, fide B.R. Jackes, *Austrobaileya* 7(1): 105 (2005). *Tapeinosperma* sp. (Woombye A.R.Bean 994), L.W. Jessup in R.J.F. Henderson (ed.), *Myrsinaceae. Names and Distribution of Queensland Plants, Algae and Lichens* 119 (2002)

**Taxonomic Notes:** *Tapeinosperma repandulum* is not currently recognised in New South Wales following the *Australian Plant Census* and the *New South Wales Flora Online* (both accessed 31 March 2021), where it appears to still be treated as part of *T. pseudojambosa* in that state, following Harden (1990). Material referred to *Tapeinosperma pseudojambosa* in New South Wales is likely to represent *T. repandulum* - see Jackes (2005) and Taxonomic Notes under genus - Editor, March 2021.

**Illustrations:** B.R. Jackes, *Austrobaileya* 7(1): 108, fig. 4; 109, figs 5C & 6C (2005); G.J. Harden *et al.*, *Rainforest Trees and Shrubs* 75 & 118 (2006); A.G. Floyd, *Rainforest Trees of Mainland South-eastern Australia* revised edn, 299 (2008); G. Leiper *et al.*, *Mangroves to Mountains* 299 (2008).

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Harden, G.J., McDonald, W.J.F. & Williams, J.B. (2006). *Rainforest Trees and Shrubs. A field guide to their identification in Victoria, New South Wales and subtropical Queensland using vegetative features*. (Gwen Harden Publishing: Nambucca Heads).  
Jackes, B.R. (2005). Studies in Australian Myrsinaceae: *Tapeinosperma* Hook.f. *Austrobaileya* 7(1): 99–110.  
Leiper, G., Glazebrook, J., Cox, D. & Rathie, K. (2008). *Mangroves to Mountains. A Field Guide to the Native Plants of South-east Queensland* Revised Edn. (Society of Growing Australian Plants (Queensland Region) Inc. Logan River Branch: Browns Plains, Qld).

**Source:** Published 31 March 2021.

## Nomenclature

Jackes, B.R. (21 December 2005), Studies in Australian Myrsinaceae: *Tapeinosperma* Hook.f. *Austrobaileya* 7(1) : 105, 107, Figs 4, 5, 6, Map 1  
basionym: *Ardisia repandula* F.Muell.: 105  
taxonomic synonym: *Tapeinosperma* sp. (Woombye A.R.Bean 994): 105

## Images



**Fig. 1:** '*Tapeinosperma repandulum*' by Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (© Royal Botanic Gardens Board)



## Acknowledgements

Editor

P.G. Kodela

