

Pleioluma macrocarpa (P.Royen) Swenson

Family:

Sapotaceae

Swenson, U. et al (2013) *Taxon* 62(4): 764.

Common name:

Big Leaf Planchonella; Boxwood, Pink; Pink Boxwood

Stem

Exudate rather slow and meagre. Lenticels rather large and conspicuous, particularly on large trees. White, granular stripes in the outer blaze.

Leaves

Leaf bearing twigs rather stout, about 6-8 mm diameter. Leaf blades rather large, about 10-20 x 5-7 cm, lateral veins curved throughout their length but not forming distinct loops. Leaves clustered towards the ends of the twigs. Petioles produce a milky exudate.

Flowers

Sepals broadly lanceolate, about 5-6 x 3-4 mm, sparse prostrate hairs on the outer surface, almost glabrous on the inner surface. Corolla about 9-11 mm long. Stamens inserted slightly above the middle of the corolla, filaments about 1.5 mm long, anthers about 1.5 mm long. Staminodes linear, about 1.5 mm long. Ovary sericeous, about 1-1.5 mm long. Style about 8 mm long, sericeous in the lower half.

Fruit

Fruits ellipsoid, about 50-60 x 35-45 mm. Seeds 1-3 per fruit, obovoid, laterally compressed, about 35-40 x 15-18 x 9-12 mm. Testa hard and woody, hilum about 3 mm wide, slightly shorter than the seed.

Seedlings

First pair of leaves elliptic, both the upper and lower surfaces sparsely clothed in short hairs. Cotyledons ovate or obovate, slightly unequal-sided, about 45-55 mm long, midrib raised on the upper surface. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade narrowly obovate-elliptic, apex acuminate, base attenuate, glabrous on the upper surface, about 10-12 lateral veins each side of the midrib, curved but not forming loops inside the blade margin; petiole, stem and terminal bud clothed in short prostrate, brown hairs. Seed germination time 17 to 25 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ, restricted to the area between the Daintree River and the southern edge of the Atherton Tableland. Altitudinal range from 150-1100 m. Grows in well developed rain forest but is more frequently found in mountain rain forest.

Synonyms

Planchonella macrocarpa P.Royen, *Blumea* 8: 320 (1955), Type: Queensland. Cook District, Kaban, Pearson Brothers s.n. (BRI). **Beccariella macrocarpa** (P.Royen) Swenson, **Bartish & Munzinger**, *Cladistics* 23: 221 (2007). **Pouteria pearsoniorum** Jessup, *Austrobaileya* 6: 163 (2001). Type: Queensland, Kaban, Pearson brothers s.n., holo: BRI; iso: L.

RFK Code

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Fruit, two views and seeds. © W.

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Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



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