

BANDICOOT PLUM

Alternative name: Brown Damson

FAMILY: COMBRETACEAE

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Terminalia porphyrocarpa*



Form and size:

Tree to 18m

Leaves:

Simple, spirally arranged, obovate in shape
Broadest at outer end, tapering to stem

Adult leaf -

Topside: lime green

Underside: paler and smooth

Bark:

Rough, dark grey

Flowers:

Cream dense, axillary spikes

Male flowers: towards the top of the spike, 3-4mm long

Bisexual flowers: at the base, 6-7mm long

Petal absent



Flowering Period:

September to February

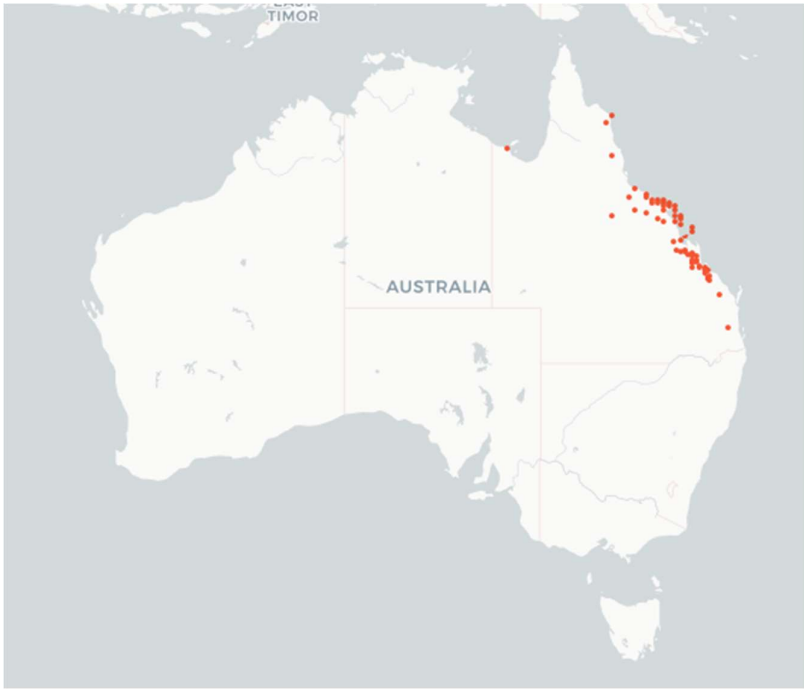
Fruit:

Edible - kernel

Large dark purple or reddish purple smooth globular fruit

Ecological notes:

Food plant for Narcissus Jewel Butterfly and moths such as Emerald Moth and Tussock Moth.

Cultivation:	Grow from fresh seed
Distribution:	<p>Herberton to Maryborough, Queensland Dry rainforest and vine thickets, often associated with limestone</p> 
<p>OTHER INFORMATION</p> <p>Disclaimer: <i>Rotary Club of Capricorn Coast can not take any responsibility for any adverse effects from the use of plants. Always seek advice from a professional before ingesting any part of a plant or using a plant medicinally.</i></p> <p>Timber: The hardwood is used in construction.</p>	

QUIZ TIME

- What two seasons does the Bandicoot Plum flower?**
 - Spring and Summer
 - Winter and Autumn
 - Autumn and Spring
 - Summer and Winter
- Are there different sexes of flowers on one flower spike? If so, explain.**
 - Yes
 - No
- What part of the fruit is edible for humans?**
 - skin
 - kernel
 - flower
 - flesh

ANSWERS:

1. A
2. A. Yes, the male flowers are towards the top of the spike and the bisexual flowers at the base of the spike.
3. B

REFERENCES

CSIRO. (2020). *Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants*.

Melzer, R., & Plumb, J. (2011). *Plants of Capricornia*. Belgamba.

Williams, P., Kirkpatrick, S., Griffith University. Centre for Coastal Management, & Gold Coast (Qld.). Council. (2009). *Coastal Plant Pocket Guide*. Griffith Centre for Coastal Management.

Image 1

Marathon, M. (2012). *Terminalia porphyrocarpa* fruit and foliage.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Terminalia_porphyrocarpa_foliage_and_fruit.jpg

Image 2

Marathon, M. (2015). *Terminalia porphyrocarpa* tree.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Terminalia_porphyrocarpa_habit.jpg

Image 3

Native Plants Queensland. (2021). *Terminalia porphyrocarpa*.

<http://www.npqtownsville.org.au/native-plants-of-the-townsville-region/terminalia-porphyrocarpa/>

Image 4

The Australasian Virtual Herbarium. (2021). *Terminalia porphyrocarpa*.

https://avh.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?taxa=Terminalia+porphyrocarpa#tab_mapView