# **SCRUB IRONBARK**

Alternative name: Small-leaved Brush Ironbark, Leichhardt's Ironbark

FAMILY: PHYLLANTHACEAE (was classified under EUPHORBIACEAE)

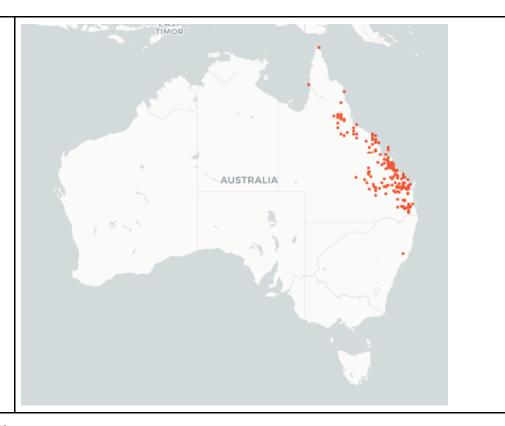
**SCIENTIFIC NAME:** Bridelia leichhardtii





Form and size:	Shrub or small tree to about 6m
Leaves:	Thin simple, alternate elliptical or obovate in shape often 2-6cm  Adult leaf -  Topside: smooth and green  Underside: greyish green with fine hairs
Bark:	Brown with fine fissures and corky plates
Flowers:	Small greenish flower occur singly or in pairs Male and female flowers separate Fragrant Male Flowers
Flowering Period:	October to July
Fruit:	Drupe (simple fleshy fruit that usually contains a single seed) 3-7mm Red when unripe turning black or purplish January to August
Ecological notes:	Fruit is eaten by the Figbird, Olive-backed Oriole and possibly bats.
Cultivation:	Grow from fresh seeds or cuttings
Distribution:	Endemic to Queensland Rainforest and vine thickets

Grows mainly on volcanic, loose clay, silt, sand or gravel substrates



## OTHER INFORMATION

<u>Disclaimer</u>: 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.

# **QUIZ TIME**

- 1. What family group was the Scrub Ironbark previously designated to?
  - a. RUTACEAE
  - b. ARALIACEAE
  - c. EUPHORBIACEAE
  - d. PHYLLANTHACEAE
- 2. Are Scrub Ironbark found in other states?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
- 3. What is a drupe?
  - a. simple fleshy fruit that usually contains many seeds
  - b. simple fleshy fruit that usually contains a single seed
  - c. a berry
  - d. a capsule

#### **ANSWERS:**

- 1. C
- 2. B
- 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

Cumming, R. (2014). *Bridelia leichhardtii*. https://www.flickr.com/photos/58828131@N07/14957728910

## Image 2

Fryer, R. and Newland, J. (2017). *Small tree in habitat* <a href="http://www.northqueenslandplants.com/Australian%20Plant%20Families%20N-S/Phyllanthaceae/Bridelia/Bridelia%20leichhardtii.html">http://www.northqueenslandplants.com/Australian%20Plant%20Families%20N-S/Phyllanthaceae/Bridelia/Bridelia%20leichhardtii.html</a>

#### Image 3

Fryer, R. and Newland, J. (2017). *Bridelia leichhardtii* flower. <a href="http://www.northqueenslandplants.com/Australian%20Plant%20Families%20N-S/Phyllanthaceae/Bridelia/Bridelia%20leichhardtii.html">http://www.northqueenslandplants.com/Australian%20Plant%20Families%20N-S/Phyllanthaceae/Bridelia/Bridelia%20leichhardtii.html</a>

#### Image 4

The Australasian Virtual Herbarium. (2021). *Bridelia leichhardtii*. <a href="https://avh.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?taxa=Bridelia+leichhardtii#tab">https://avh.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?taxa=Bridelia+leichhardtii#tab</a> mapView