

Muehlenbeckia zippelii (Meisn.) Danser

Family:

Polygonaceae

Danser, B.H. (1940) *Bulletin du Jardin Botanique de Buitenzorg Series 3* 16: 325.

Common name:

Wrinkle Nut Lignum; Lignum; Lignum, Wrinkle Nut

Stem

A slender vine not exceeding a stem diameter of 2 cm. Leafy stems usually hollow.

Leaves

Stipules about 4-10 mm long, papery, completely sheathing the twigs or stems. Leaf blades about 4.5-12 x 3-7 cm, margins crinkled like a lettuce leaf (*Lactuca sativa*). Petioles about 1.5-4 cm long, channelled on the upper surface. Lateral veins 5-7 on each side of the midrib.

Flowers

Male flowers: Stamens eight. Female flowers: Flowers produced in fascicles in a larger inflorescence. Flowers about 4-5 mm diam. Perianth lobes about 2 x 1.5 mm. Staminodes eight. Ovules one.

Fruit

Fruits +/- 3-sided, about 3-4 mm long, enclosed in a capsule-like structure. Surface of the nut deeply rugose.

Seedlings

Features not available.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CYP, NEQ, CEQ and southwards to south-east Queensland. Altitudinal range in northern Australia from near sea level to 1100 m. Usually grows in open forest or wet sclerophyll forest but also on rain forest margins and in vine thicket and monsoon forest. Also found in New Guinea.

Synonyms

***Polygonum zippelii* Meisn.**, *Annales Museum Botanicum Lugduno-Batavum* 2: 64(1866), Type: New Guinea.

RFK Code

2526



Flower. © Barry Jago



Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



Flowers. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO

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