

Ficus leptoclada Benth.

Family:

Moraceae

Bentham, G. (1873) *Flora Australiensis* 6: 172. Type: Queensland. Rockingham Bay, Dallachy.

Common name:

Fig, Atherton; Atherton Fig; Figwood

Stem

Not a strangling fig. Fibrous stripes in the blaze, darker than the general blaze background. Subrhytidome layer frequently yellow.

Leaves

Leaf blades about 8-12 x 3-4 cm, upper surface somewhat rough, resembling sandpaper when touched with the lips. Stipules about 0.5 cm long, semi-persistent, remaining attached to the twig after each leaf expands. Twig bark strong and fibrous when stripped. Very small prickle-like teeth sometimes apparent around the margin of the leaf blade.

Flowers

Tepals +/- linear, red. Male flowers produced around the ostiole. Bracts at the base of the fig absent (usually two bracts on the peduncle). No lateral bracts on the outside of the fig body.

Fruit

Figs pedunculate, +/- globular or ovoid, about 20 x 17 mm when ripe. Orifice closed by interlocking apical and internal bracts.

Seedlings

Cotyledons orbicular, about 4 mm diam. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade elliptic or ovate, apex acuminate, base cuneate to obtuse, margins crenate or dentate, teeth along upper 2/3 of the leaf blade, both the upper and lower surfaces scabrous; oil dots small, numerous, visible with a lens; petiole and stem scabrous. Stipules sheathing the terminal bud, shed early. Seed germination time 19 to 74 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Queensland, occurs in NEQ and CEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1200 m. Grows in well developed rain forest on a variety of sites. This species is favoured by disturbance and is often found in rain forest regrowth.

Natural History & Notes

Fruit eaten by Double-eyed Fig-parrots and Fruit Pigeons. Cooper & Cooper (1994).

RFK Code

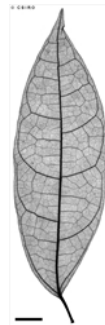
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Leaves and figs. © CSIRO



Figs, side views and cross section. © W. T. Cooper



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO

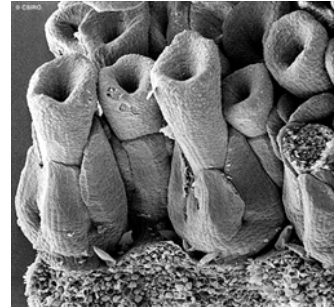


Cotyledon and 1st leaf stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO

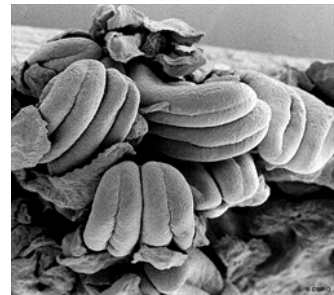




Fig. longitudinal section. © CSIRO



Female flowers or gall flowers. © CSIRO



Group of male flowers, bird's-eye view. © CSIRO

