



Flindersia bennettiana — family: RUTACEAE

BENNETT'S ASH

Tall rainforest tree to 40 metres, usually much smaller
Heavy panicles of small white flowers August to October
Large decorative green fruit capsules

Cultivation: Adapted to sandy, basaltic or acid volcanic soils, requires free drainage; fast growing once established.

This is a dark, handsome tree common in lowland areas from Iluka in north-east NSW to Fraser Is. It occurs mostly in littoral, riverine or dry rainforest but also in subtropical and occasionally warm temperate rainforest. It is an excellent species for regeneration and



woodlots. The heavy panicles of white flowers occur in the cooler months and smell thickly of dough. The fruit capsules split into five boat-shaped pieces and shed flat, winged seeds which germinate within a few weeks if sown fresh.

The tree attracts numerous insect-eating birds because of its popularity with native flies, butterflies and bees.