

## Sterculiaceae

### *Brachychiton bidwillii*

Rusty or Little Kurrajong



Silyoak



ALA Local Natives



messsy\_jessy



donnamareetomkinson

#### ETYMOLOGY

(brack-ee-KY-tun) Brachy = short + Greek chiton = a coat of mail or tunic; The species bidwillii (bid-WIL-ee-eye) After JC. Bidwill a botanical collector & one-time commissioner of Crown Lands in Qld 624

#### LIFEFORM

#### STATUS

#### OCCURS

#### HABITAT

#### LEAVES

#### FLOWERS

#### FRUIT

#### BARK

#### STEM

#### ETHNOBOTANY

#### TOLERANCE

#### WILDLIFE

#### NATIVE BEES

#### INSECTS

#### MISTLETOES:

#### BIRD

#### BUTTERFLY

#### INDIGENOUS USES

#### ID FEATURE

Shrub 3-4 m x 2 m Spread

Well conserved; Rare population size; Occurs from Bowen in NE Qld to Boonah, close to Qld/NSW border;

Byfield, Eidsvold Monto Q to NSW

Dry Semi-evergreen Vine thicket, Rainforest, Open forest

Alternate, fleshy with velvety texture, dull green soft rusty star-hairs, blunt ovate or bluntly 3-5 lobed. Bell-shaped, 3-4 cm, stalkless candy pink, red; male 22-30 mm; female 5-10 mm; clusters emerging from trunk and branches, deciduous when flowering; Tube hairless inside; flowers 35-45 x 22-30 mm.

Androgynophores: **Flowering times** Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec

Follicles (od-like), 10-12 cm, covered in rusty stellate hairs, containing bright yellow hairy seeds;

**Fruiting times:** April, June

Rough dark grey furrowed;

Small tree with erect stems, swollen at base; Branches spreading in opposing growth

Attractive ornamental with deciduous leaves when flowering; Grafted hybrids 'Large Pink' or 'Beau Bells' and 'Large Red'; Edible seeds eatene raw or stewed,

Full sun; Tolerates a wide range of soil types

Flowers food plant for Little Red Flying Fox *Pteropus scapulatus*;

Stingless Native Bees *Tetragonula* spp favour the pollen

*Chasmina pulchra*, *Conogethes punctiferalis* Yellow Peach Moth, *Lygropia clytusalis*, *Tonica effractella*, *Xanthodes congenita* (Moths)

*Notothixos cornifolius*

Flowers attract Lewin's Honeyeater, Little Wattlebird; Seeds eaten by Common Bronzewing, Crested Pigeon

*Arhopala micle* Common Oak Blue, *Erysichton lineata* Hairy Line-blue, *Candalides absimilis* Common Pencil-blue, *Phaedyma shepherdii* Common Aeroplane, *Polyura pyrrhus*, *Polyura sempronius* Tailed Emperor

Seeds were eaten roasted or raw; pounded between two stones and eaten sometimes mixed with honey; Green stick with leaves removed mixed with honey before eaten; Bark used for firesticks and some spears;

Tube glabrous inside; flowers 35-45 x 22-30 mm diam.; androgynophores

(elongated stalk bearing stamens and pistil) male 22-30 mm, female 5-10 mm  
+ Seed surrounded by hairy or bristly covering;