

## Rutaceae

### *Acronychia oblongifolia*

yellowwood, hard aspen



Ann Moran  
Field Botanist



#### ETYMOLOGY

(ac-ro-NICK-ee-a) Greek Acros = end or edge + onyx = claw; The Latin species oblongifolia (ob-lon-gee-FO-lee-ah) oblong leaves; a leaf, referring to the rectangular-shaped leaves.

#### LIFEFORM STATUS

Tree 14-27m x 3-7m Spread

#### OCCURS

Listed as Rare and Threatened in Victoria; Well conserved; Endemic from Gympie to eastern Vic: Northern limit is Bauple area; Uncommon per site.

#### HABITAT

Gympie, SE Qld to NSW, Gippsland Lakes, Vic.

#### LEAVES

Subtropical Dry Rainforest, Complex Notophyll Vine forest

Opposite, 3-12 cm x 14-45 mm, rectangular shaped, lateral veins 5-11 pairs oil dots numerous on 6-13mm stalks; aromatic when rubbed, sometimes lemon-scented.

#### FLOWERS

Scented 5-7 mm individual white flowers in 4-8 cm cymes: Scented flowers with overpowering smell; **Flowering times** Feb, March, May, June

#### FRUIT

Drupes, 13 mm, round, fleshy, mostly 4-lobed white ribbed each lobe with 1-2 dark brown seeds 3-5 mm; Raw fruit astringent sour taste according to degree of maturity.

#### BARK

**Fruiting times** May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov

#### TRUNK or STEM

Dark brown smooth, often blistered or fissured, finely wrinkled vertically, lenticels prominent. Tree with cylindrical trunk; Stems hairless, reddish brown or purplish,

#### ETHNOBOTANY

Aromatic edible fruits but very acidic, Good candied or made into liqueurs, used in cooking preserves, sauces, juices and cocktail. Wood creamy-white close-grained fairly hard and tough for turnery, carving and small tool handles; Reported have an aromatic lemon/orange flavour, the berries can be served with salads and side dishes or served cooked with seafood or poultry; Practitioners of Chinese medicine used bark in herbal pharmaceuticals;

#### TOLERANCE

Full sun to part shade; Well drained soil

#### WILDLIFE

Scented flowers attract insects. Leaves larva food plant for Orchard Swallowtail butterflies.

#### INSECTS

*Acrocercops macaria* (Leaf Miner), *Dichomeris capnites* (Moth) *Aleurocanthus froggotti* (Whitefly)

#### BIRDS

Fruit eaten by Green Catbird, Pied Currawong, Regent Bowerbird, Satin Bowerbird, Topknot Pigeon, Emerald Dove, White-headed Pigeon, Wompoo Fruit-dove, Topknot Pigeon, Blue-faced Honeyeater

#### BUTTERFLY

*Papilio aegaeus* Orchard Swallowtail, *Papilio ambrax* Capaneus Swallowtail

#### ID FEATURE

Leaflet laminae widest above middle or mostly so ovary densely pubescent at apex + Fruit 5-9 mm, densely pubescent at apex, with septicial fissures in distal 1/3-1/2.