

## Rusty Pittosporum



**FAMILY:** Pittosporaceae

**HABIT:** Large shrub to small tree with a dense rounded canopy.

**LEAVES:** Simple, alternate, pseudo-whorls, broadly elliptic to obovate, stiff up to 12 x 6cm; bright green above, paler beneath and covered in rusty hairs. New growth is also covered with soft rusty hairs.

**FLOWER/FRUIT:** Cream yellow, five-lobed tubular flowers, about 1.5cm in diameter, are borne in terminal and axillary clusters in winter.

The rough, yellow-orange, two-valved ovoid capsules, about 1cm in diameter, open to reveal sticky red seeds.

**PROPAGATION:** Fresh seed.

**LOCAL HABITAT:** Littoral forests.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Coastal eastern Queensland north of Nambour, the Northern Territory and overseas.

**GENERAL:** An attractive small ornamental tree which attracts birds to the colourful fruits.

**REFERENCES:** Alcock & Champion, 1989 *One Hundred and One Trees of Mackay*.  
Harden, McDonald & Williams, 2006 *Rainforest trees and shrubs*.