

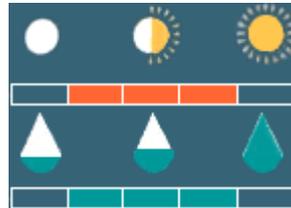
Cheese Tree

Glochidion ferdinandi



Family: Phyllanthaceae

Woody shrub or small tree 8 – 25 m



Distribution: south-eastern NSW northwards to northern and inland Qld, in rainforests and humid eucalypt forests.

Description: Flaky brownish-grey bark, flowering may occur at any time of year, small pumpkin-shaped fruit, which are green at first before turning shades of white and pink. Divided into segments radially, they eventually split open to reveal bright red seeds from November to April.

Propagation: Seeds take 1–4 months to germinate.

Habitat: Grows in both clay and sandy soils, and is found in rainforest and wetter areas in sclerophyll forest

Uses: Good shade tree. Pigeons, figbirds and parrots consume its fruit. The ladybird *Scymnodes lividigaster* feeds on the aphid *Aphis eugeniae*, which feeds on the cheese tree.