

SANTALACEAE

Small trees, shrubs, perennial herbs or epiphytic climbers; hemiparasitic on roots or branches. Stipules absent. Leaves opposite or alternate, rarely whorled, simple, entire. Inflorescence various. Flowers actinomorphic. Perianth 1-whorled; tepals 3-5, valvate. Stamens as many as tepals and opposite to them. Ovary inferior or superior, 1-5-locular; ovules 1 per locule; disc usually present. Stigma lobed. Fruit mostly a fleshy drupe. Seed 1.

About 30 genera and 400 species in tropical and temperate regions of the world; in Australia 10 genera. In the NT, 4 genera, all in the DR. [Hewson & George, 1984]

1.	Aerial stem parasite; vine	Dendromyza
1.	Root parasites; shrubs or small trees	2
2.	Leaves opposite	Santalum
2.	Leaves alternate	3
3.	Leaves filiform	Anthobolus
3.	Leaves ovate, elliptic or obovate	Exocarpos

ANTHOBOLUS R.Br.

An Australian endemic genus of 3 species; 2 occur in the NT but only 1 in the DR.

A. filifolius R.Br.

Glabrous, dioecious, evergreen shrub to 3 m. Leaves alternate, sessile, filiform, mucronate, 10-60 mm long. Male flowers in axillary, 3-5-flowered umbels or racemes; peduncle 4-10 mm long; bracts minute, caducous; pedicels 1-4 mm long; tepals 3-4, yellow or greenish brown, ovate, obtuse, 1-2 mm long. Female flowers in axillary 1-3-flowered umbels or in 3-4-flowered racemes;

peduncle 2-25 mm long; bracts ovate, caducous; pedicels to 19 mm long; tepals 3-5, yellow, oblong-ovate, 1.5-2 mm long; ovary superior; stigma sessile. Fruit orange to red, ellipsoid, 5.5-9 mm long. Flowering and fruiting: throughout the year. Fig. 62

NT and Qld; rare in the DR where known only from Litchfield NP. Generally in near-coastal localities in open woodland on sandy soils.

DENDROMYZA Danser

A genus of 5 species from New Guinea, Solomon Islands and northern Australia. Only 1 species in the NT.

D. reinwardtiana (Blume ex Korth.) Danser

Stem-parasitic, glabrous, dioecious vine or scrambling shrub. Branchlets either twining with haustoria and scale leaves or leafy and non-twining. Normal leaves alternate, elliptic to obovate, rounded, 20-100 mm long, 3-9 longitudinal primary veins, abruptly attenuate at base into short petiole. Flowers clustered in axils and along branchlets, shortly pedicellate or sessile, subtended by bracts forming an involucre.

Tepals 4-5, green, triangular, c. 1 mm long; disc thick. Male flowers ± globose on narrowed receptacle; staminal filaments short, thick. Female flowers c. 2 mm long; ovary inferior, 1-locular; style short; stigmas 5, erect. Fruit pink, ovoid, 6-8 mm long, narrowed at apex and crowned by tepals. Seed pyriform, 5-ribbed. Flowering and fruiting: Jan - Sept. Fig. 62

From Sumatra, Luzon to Papua New Guinea. In

Australia known from Cape York and the NT. In the DR known only from 2 sites on Melville Is. in perennially wet vine forest. Parasitic on *Calophyllum*

soulattri Burman f. and *Syzygium eucalyptoides* (F.Muell.) B.Hyland subsp. *bleeseri* (O.Schwarz) B.Hyland.

EXOCARPOS Labill.

A genus of c. 26 species; from Malesia to Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii and New Caledonia. Two species in the NT; only 1 occurs in the DR.

E. latifolius R.Br.

Root parasitic, evergreen shrub or small tree to 10 m; bark black, deeply furrowed; root suckering. Glabrous to densely pubescent with minute stellate hairs on all parts. Leaves alternate; petioles 2-8 mm long; blades elliptic, obovate or ovate, rounded to acute, 18-110 mm long, 8-62 mm wide, L/B 1.4-2.3; 3-9 longitudinal primary nerves. Inflorescence a filiform spike, often clustered or branched, to 40 mm long. Flowers bisexual, 5-merous, minute, greenish. Disc

lobes alternating with stamens. Ovary superior; stigma sessile. Fruiting receptacle swollen below drupe, succulent, maturing yellow or red, obovoid, 5-8 mm long; drupe coriaceous, ellipsoid, 5-10 mm long. Flowering and fruiting: throughout year. Fig. 62

Widespread across northern Australia, also in Malesia and the Philippines. Common in the DR in vine thickets and open forest on a variety of soil types. There is variation in indumentum and leaf size. The fleshy receptacle is edible (Smith & Wightman, 1990).

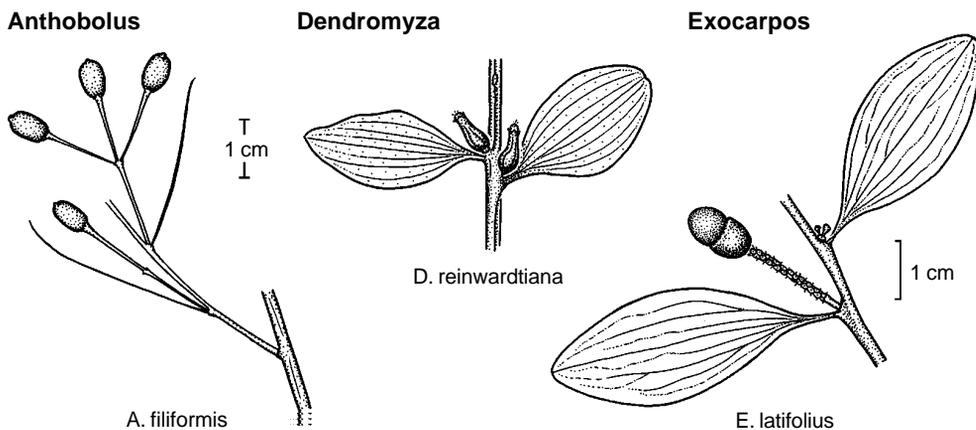


Fig. 62

SANTALUM L.

Root-parasitic, glabrous, evergreen shrubs or small trees. Leaves opposite or whorled. Flowers bisexual, in terminal or axillary panicles or racemes, rarely umbelliform; bracts caducous. Tepals 4, usually with hair tufts at base behind stamens. Prominent or slightly developed fleshy lobes alternating with stamens. Ovary inferior; ovules 2-4; style short; stigma small. Fruit dark purple to black, with apical collar.

A genus of c. 25 species from Malesia, Polynesia, Hawaii, Juan Fernandez to Australia. Six species recorded for Australia; 3 in the NT and 2 in the DR.

- 1. Leaves ovate, rarely narrower, discolorous; lateral veins evident; flowers dark red or green, c. 4 mm long *S. album*
- 1. Leaves lanceolate to narrowly elliptic, rarely wider, concolorous; lateral veins obscure; flowers white to cream, 6-8 mm long *S. lanceolatum*

