

SHORT COMMUNICATION
Rediscovery of the previously Extinct *Marsdenia*
***araujacea* F.Muell. (Apocynaceae)**

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At the time of my taxonomic account of *Marsdenia* R.Br. in Australia and Papuasia, the species *M. araujacea* F.Muell. had not been recollected since 1893 (Forster 1995) and consequently has been listed as **Extinct** (*viz.* EPBC 1999) or **Extinct in the Wild** (NCWR 2006). This is no longer the case following a recent collection slightly to the north of the previously known distribution. The species is still apparently uncommon as the primary collector stated that only a single specimen was seen. However, this group of *Marsdenia* species (*M. glandulifera* C.T.White, *M. hemiptera* H.Rchb., *M. paludicola* P.I.Forst.), are patchily distributed in Australia, often in spring fed rainforest systems from northern New South Wales through eastern Queensland and across into the Northern Territory.

Taxonomy

Marsdenia araujacea F.Muell., *Fragm.* 6: 135 (1868). **Type:** Queensland. COOK DISTRICT: Stone River, 24 October 1866, *J. Dallachy s.n.* (holo: MEL 113385, 113386); iso: BRI [AQ333092]).

Vincetoxicum pachylepis F.M.Bailey, *Bot. Bull.* 8: 78 (1893). **Type:** Queensland. COOK DISTRICT: Kamerunga, Barron River, January 1893, *E. Cowley s.n.* (holo: BRI [AQ333088]).

The previous species description can be amended slightly, *viz.*

Fruit fusiform-ovoid, glabrous, 13.5–15 cm long, 5–8 cm wide (fully expanded), slightly warty near tip and with the tip slightly incurved. **Fig. 1.**

Additional specimen examined: Queensland. COOK DISTRICT: 26.1 km N of Hopevale on Binirr NP (CYPAL),

Sep 2016, *Thompson SLT16602, McConnell, McClean, Nipper, D., Nipper, B. & Nipper, H.* (BRI).

Distribution and habitat: *Marsdenia araujacea* is endemic to northeast Queensland where it has been recorded from Binirr National Park (CYPAL) south to the Stone River, west of Ingham. The recent collection is from a *Blepharocarya involucrigera* F.Muell. gallery forest; these are invariably associated with permanent water, albeit often by tapping underground springs or aquifers. *Blepharocarya* dominated communities are widespread; however, they are often linear in distribution following water courses or otherwise just around a water source.

Conservation status: This species is now assigned **Endangered** conservation status under the NCA (1992).

Acknowledgements

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References

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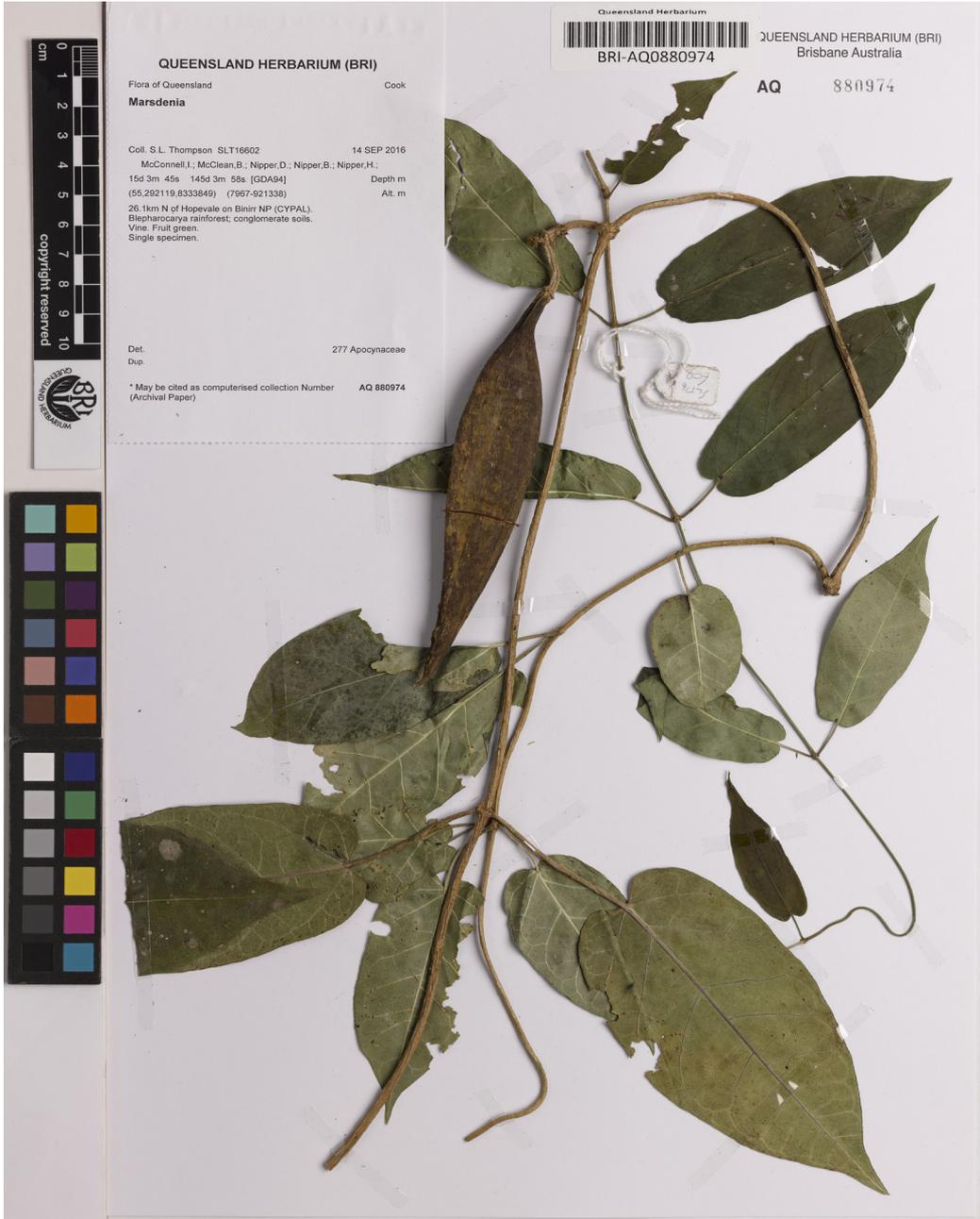


Fig. 1. *Marsdenia araujacea* (Thompson SLT16602 et al., BRI).