

***Alphitonia excelsa* Red Ash RHAMNACEAE**



**Typical height:** 15-20m (>35m)      **Spread:**

**Climate:** Tropical, subtropical, temperate.

**Light conditions:** Full sun, part shade.

**Growth habit:** A slender upright tree with layered branching and an open conical crown. Fast growing at approx. 1-2m per year.

**Growing conditions:** Occurs in Western Australia, Northern Territory, and from Cape York Peninsula extending southerly to south east New South Wales. Grows in open forest, monsoon forest and dry rainforest, at an altitudinal range of 0-800m. A hardy cover species that colonises well.

**Flowers:** Strongly scented, Jan - Apr      **Fruit:** May – Oct

**References:** Brock, J. (2001) *Native Plants of Northern Australia*. Melzer R., Plumb J., Zich F.A., Hyland B.P.M., Whiffin T., Kerrigan R.A. (2020) *Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants, Edition 8*. <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/>. Accessed 18/03/2024. Turpin G. *et al.* (2022) *Aboriginal Medicinal Plants of Queensland*. Image Credit: Hansen, V.

**Other:** Attracts a variety of butterflies and birds, and bees. The bark, wood, leaves, and roots have a use in aboriginal medicine to treat pain, fever, stomach upset, lesions, and snake bites. Crushed leaves produce a soapy foam, also used as a fish poison.

**References:** Brock, J. (2001) **Native Plants of Northern Australia**. Melzer R., Plumb J., Zich F.A., Hyland B.P.M., Whiffin T., Kerrigan R.A. (2020) **Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants, Edition 8**. <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/>. Accessed 18/03/2024. Turpin G. *et al.* (2022) **Aboriginal Medicinal Plants of Queensland**. Image Credit: Hansen, V.