

Sterculia quadrifida
(Sterculiaceae)

Common name: Peanut tree.

Localities: Kholo Creek, Moggill State Forest,
Savages Rd, Upper Brookfield.

Growth form: A small to medium deciduous
tree to 20 m tall.

Foliage: Leaves are clustered, thin,
broad-based, up to 23 cm long
and 14 cm wide.

Flowers and fruit: Male and female flowers are mostly borne
on different trees. The flowers are small
and pale green and are lemon-scented. The
fruit are borne in clusters and are
spectacular, being 5-7 cm long and red,
opening on the tree to reveal several black,
edible seeds.

Habitat: Occurs in dry rainforest.

**Propagation and
Management:** Seed germinates readily, providing it is fresh.
Peanut tree requires excellent drainage, but
is tolerant of droughts and full sun.

General: An excellent fast-growing tree for rainforest
regeneration projects. Various parts of the
tree were utilised by Aborigines - seeds
(eaten, raw or cooked), leaves (wound dressings),
bark (nets and fishing lines, or, as an infusion,
for eye complaints).

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