

Diploglottis australis
(Sapindaceae)

- Common name:** Native tamarind.
- Localities:** Widespread in suitable habitats in the district, occurring at Grandview Rd, Moggill State Forest and Upper Brookfield.
- Growth form:** A distinctive and handsome medium or tall tree with spreading branches. Buds and stems are densely covered with dark brown hairs.
- Foliage:** Leaves are large and pinnate, with 8-12 large, hairy leaflets 15-30 cm long, up to 12 cm wide.
- Flowers and fruit:** Flowers are small and brownish-white about 4 mm across, but are carried in large panicles; these are followed by yellow to brown, 2- to 3-lobed fruit about 2 cm in diameter. The seeds are large and are enclosed in an orange, fleshy aril.
- Habitat:** Subtropical rainforest and dry rainforest.
- Propagation and Management:** Fresh seed germinates rapidly, but loses viability when stored. Native tamarind tolerates sun or shade, but benefits from regular watering and it requires some protection from full sun when small. It is rather slow in early growth and takes time to fill out into a tree; it prefers an acid, well-drained soil rich in organic matter.
- General:** The fruit is very attractive to fruit-eating birds and bats. It was eaten by Aborigines and is also reputed to make into a tasty jam.

