

Reampy - *Brexiopsis aquifolia* H. Perrier

Striking features

- large and elongated spiny leaves
- evergreen

Small tree that is readily observable as a shrub thanks to its unique long, narrow, spiny, evergreen leaves.



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Description

Stature: in younger individuals branches are nearly horizontal.

Size: shrub to small tree.

Bark: smooth in younger individuals, often mainly covered by a patchwork various lichen species.

Leaves: evergreen leaves that are long (up to 20 cm) and narrow. The edges are sharply toothed. The leaves of lower and upper twigs differ (see figure below).

Flower: sessile flowers on branches.

Fruit: lobed drupe to 3 cm. Contains up to 5 seeds.

Seed:



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Ecology

Status and distribution: found in southern, eastern and northern forests. Reported to resemble *D. capuronii*, a species found in northeastern forests.

Habitat requirements: appears to be shade-tolerant.

Phenology: evergreen.

Kirindy: common in CS4.

Reproduction:



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Uses

None reported.

Sources and further information

General:

Botanical description: McPherson (2000), Schatz (2005) p 101, Flore de Madagascar No. 116.

Forestry:

Kirindy: Anon. (1993) no. 83

Herbarium specimen:

Perrier de la Bathie 17804

References: McPherson, G. (2000) *Drypetes* (Euphorbiaceae) in Madagascar and the Comoro Islands. Adansonia sér. 3; 22, 205-209.



(source: Flore de Madagascar 116)

Leaf variation: lower vs upper twigs.