

## *Pittosporum undulatum* - Sweet Pittosporum

**Family:**  
Pittosporaceae

**Common Name:**  
Sweet Pittosporum, Native Daphne

**Distribution:**  
Grows in rainforest and wet sclerophyll forest along with sheltered situations in drier forest or woodland, a widespread species on the coast and ranges. Extends from SA through Vic, Tas, NSW into Qld. In HSC in vegetation communities O1(107.9ha), BG1 (37.2 ha), BG2 (14.0 ha), T1 (295.0 ha), DF(15.5 ha), L1 (837.3 ha), Q1 (271.1 ha), A (5,579.4 ha), E (46.5 ha), S (62.3 ha) and B (93.4 ha). May also occur in other communities facilitated by the absence of fire or sheltered locations.

**Derivation of Name:**  
*Pittosporum*, Greek, meaning "pitch-seed", referring to the resinous coating around the seeds. *undulatum*, Latin, *unda* which means wave, this is a reference to the wavy edge of the leaf blade.

**Conservation Status:**  
Adequately conserved in HSC. Most likely increasing in abundance.



**Description:**  
A shrub to small bushy tree. Can attain a height of 12m and spread of 7m. The trunk is slightly rough and coarse grey to light brown coloured, it is often sticky to touch due to exudations of sap. Foliage is bright glossy green, aromatic, often with small pitted depressions from insect attack. Ovate to elliptical leaves measure 6-15cm in length and 1.5 -4cm in width. Small highly fragrant flowers appear in terminal clusters during spring these are followed by persistent orange berries, 1cm in diameter, that split to reveal sticky red seeds over autumn through winter.

**Longevity:**  
Up to 40 years.

**Horticultural Merit and uses:**  
Although not commonly promoted in horticultural applications, this plant commonly self seeds into parks and gardens. Can be a serious weed outside of its natural distribution area, and can seriously alter the ecology of bushland within its natural range if allowed to establish.

**Fauna Value:**  
Fruit is eaten by flying foxes, a wide range of fruit eating birds whilst flowers provide resources for a wide range of invertebrates and nectar feeding birds. Longicorn beetles often attack timber.











