

RMT *Nothofagus* – *Atherosperma* rainforest: thamnic facies

Community Description:

The thamnic facies of *Nothofagus*–*Atherosperma* rainforest (**RMT**) occurs on sites of lower productivity. Trees are large and well-formed but do not usually reach beyond 25 m in height. The canopy is dominated by *Nothofagus cunninghamii* together with *Atherosperma moschatum* and occasionally *Eucryphia lucida* (restricted to western and southern parts of Tasmania). *Acacia melanoxylon* and *Phyllocladus aspleniifolius* may be present in the canopy but never provide more than 5% cover. There is a distinct separation between the closed canopy and the understorey of well-spaced trees which often include *Anodopetalum biglandulosum*, *Cenarrhenes nitida*, *Anopterus glandulosus* and species of *Trochocarpa*, as well as *Prionotes cerinthoides* and *Pimelea drupacea*. Tall *Richea pandanifolia* are sometimes present. Other smaller trees and shrubs may include *Telopea truncata*, *Aristotelia peduncularis*, *Pimelea drupacea*, *Pittosporum bicolor* and *Coprosma quadrifida*. The mid storey may be sparse and uneven but never densely tangled. Ferns occur but are less important than in the callidendrous facies of RMT. Ground ferns commonly include *Blechnum watsii* and *Histiopteris incisa*. Epiphytic ferns include *Rumohra adiantiformis*, *Microsorium pustulatum* subsp. *pustulatum*, and species of *Hymenophyllum* and *Notogrammitis*. *Gahnia grandis* is often present and the broad-leaf lily *Drymophila cyanocarpa* is typical of these rainforests. This benchmark is 1 of two benchmarks available for RMT and is suitable for assessing the thamnic component of this community.

Benchmarks:

Component	Height (m)	Cover (%)	DBH (cm)	Diameter (cm)	Count (#/ha)	Total Length (m/0.1 ha)
Tree Canopy	20	75	-	-	-	-
Large Trees	-	-	30	-	80	-
Logs	-	-	-	≥ 10	-	100
Large Logs	-	-	-	≥ 15	-	-
Organic Litter	-	75	-	-	-	-
Recruitment	Continuous					

Understorey Life Forms	LF code	# Spp	Cover (%)
Immature Canopy Tree	ICT	1	5
Tree (sub-canopy)/Large Shrub	T	3	25
Medium Shrub/Small Shrub	S	2	5
Ground Ferns and fern allies	GF	1	5
Scramblers/Climbers/Epiphytes	SCE	3	1
Mosses and Lichens	ML	1	10
Total	6	11	

Species lists:

Tree Canopy Species	Common Name	Notes
<i>Nothofagus cunninghamii</i>	myrtle beech	
<i>Atherosperma moschatum</i>	sassafras	
<i>Eucryphia lucida</i>	leatherwood	Occasional dominant, restricted to western and southern Tasmania.
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	blackwood	<5% cover
<i>Phyllocladus aspleniifolius</i>	celerytop pine	<5% cover

Typical Understorey Species *	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Anodopetalum biglandulosum</i>	horizontal	T
<i>Anopterus glandulosus</i>	Tasmanian laurel	T
<i>Archeria</i> spp.	rainforest heath	T
<i>Cenarrhenes nitida</i>	native plum	T
<i>Coprosma</i> spp.	currant	T
<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i>	woolly teatree	T
<i>Olearia argophylla</i>	musk daisybush	T
<i>Pimelea drupacea</i>	cherry riceflower	T
<i>Pittosporum bicolor</i>	cheesewood	T
<i>Prionotes cerinthoides</i>	climbing heath	T
<i>Richea pandanifolia</i> subsp. <i>pandanifolia</i>	pandani	T
<i>Tasmania lanceolata</i>	mountain pepper	T
<i>Aristotelia peduncularis</i>	heartberry	S
<i>Coprosma</i> spp.	currant	S
<i>Pimelea drupacea</i>	cherry riceflower	S
<i>Telopea truncata</i>	tasmanian waratah	S
<i>Trochocarpa</i> spp.	purpleberry	S
<i>Australina pusilla</i>	shade nettle	H
<i>Hydrocotyle</i> spp.	pennywort	H
<i>Libertia pulchella</i>	pretty grassflag	H
<i>Oxalis magellanica</i>	snowdrop woodsorrel	H
<i>Gahnia grandis</i>	cutting grass	LSR
<i>Carex</i> spp.	sedge	MSR
<i>Dryophila cyanocarpa</i>	turquoise berry	MSR
<i>Uncinia tenella</i>	delicate hooksedge	MSR
<i>Dicksonia antarctica</i>	soft treefern	TF
<i>Asplenium</i> spp.	spleenwort	GF
<i>Blechnum wattsii</i>	hard waterfern	GF
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	batswing fern	GF
<i>Lycopodium fastigiatum</i>	mountain clubmoss	GF
<i>Polystichum proliferum</i>	mother shieldfern	GF
<i>Clematis aristata</i>	mountain clematis	SCE
<i>Hymenophyllum</i> spp.	filmyfern	SCE
<i>Microsorium pustulatum</i> subsp. <i>pustulatum</i>	kangaroo fern	SCE
<i>Notogrammitis</i> spp.	fingerfern	SCE
<i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i>	leathery shieldfern	SCE

*This list is provided as a guide only. The species listed are typical of this plant community type but may not necessarily be present.