Cinnamomum burmannii

Padang cassia

Cinnamomum burmannii (Nees) Blum

Family: Lauraceae

Description: Tree with smooth branches. Bark and leaves aromatic. Leaves green, glossy, alternate except frequently opposite at tips of young branches, ovate, 4 inches long by 1.6 inches wide with midrib plus 2 prominent veins along the margin; this typical of the genus. Inflorescences are short panicles, not showy. Fruits are dark berries. [C. camphora (L.) J. Presl., the camphor tree, a small tree with smooth branches. Buds in axils covered with bracts giving the appearance of cones. Young branches show scars from fallen bracts. Leaves aromatic, ovate, 4 inches long by 2 inches wide, midrib plus 2 prominent veins. Flowers in short clusters in axils. Fruits are berries. Native to Asia, source of camphor. Occurs on Kaua'i, O'ahu, Lana'i, and Maui, Not escaping frequently but tolerant of herbicides.] Cinnamomum from the Greek for cinnamon⁽⁷⁰⁾; burmannii, of Burma.

Distribution: Native to Indonesia, introduced into Hawai'i in 1927 or earlier. In Hawai'i, naturalized in Mānoa Valley and Pauoa Flats⁽⁷⁰⁾. Randy Bartlett (Maui Pine) reported it naturalized and being spread by birds in West Maui below Pu'uka'eo. Also occurs on Kaua'i and Lana'i⁽⁷⁰⁾.



Environmental impact: Slowly spreading in mesic to wet forests.

Management: May be difficult to control. Susceptible to injected imazapyr or undiluted triclopyr amine applied to frills (Hank Oppenheimer, Maui Pine).