a i a i (Streblus pendulinus)

MORACEAE, mulberry family



Streblus pendulinus (Endl.) F.v. Muell.

This species is native from New Guinea, eastern Australia, through parts of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia eastward to Rapa and the main Hawaiian Islands (Wagner et al. 1990).

<u>Summary statement of uses</u>: No references of ethnobotanical uses for this species have been found.

Rock (1919) noted, "The wood of the *Aiai* is light brown, close-grained, hard, and tough. The aboriginals of New South Wales employed the wood for their boomerangs. When properly dressed and polished it has a remarkable resemblance to Oak."

Status at Auwahi: A'i a'i is one of the most common trees in upper Auwahi (2000-4000 ft) and was once likely a dominant and characteristic tree species of much of leeward Haleakalā.