Rough-shelled Macadamia (Macadamia tetraphylla) is a medium, evergreen tree growing to 18m high. It is densely branched and bushy and produces edible nuts. Although used in cultivation, it is Vulnerable in the wild.

Leaves are oblong, with no leaf stalk, and usually arranged with 4 leaves per node (sometimes 3 or 5). Leaf edges are prickly, and the leaf tip is pointed.

Mature leaves are green with a leathery texture.

Young leaves are bright red, soft and coarsely serrated.

Nuts mature March to April and fall to the ground when ripe. The nut shell is rough and thick.

WHERE IS IT NATURALLY FOUND?

Rainforests of coastal ranges and valleys, from Mt Cotton in South East Queensland to the Richmond River in northern New South Wales.

For more information:
www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity
www.wildmacadamias.org.au

References: