PLANT FACT SHEET

Peltophorum africanum Sond.

GENUS *Peltophorum* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES African wattle, Weeping wattle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Gum

The gum is eaten as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 10 m tall. It has a rusty brown covering over the plant. It does not have thorns. It loses many leaves during the year. The leaves are twice divided. There are 7 pairs of pinnae about 6 cm long each with 15 pairs of leaflets. These are 8 mm long by 3 mm wide. The flowers are in branching groups at the end of the plant. These are 20 cm long. There are many flowers close together. They are yellow. The fruit are flattened pods that taper to both ends. They are 7 cm long by 2 cm wide. There are about 2 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in open woodland and on rocky outcrops and river banks. It is often on sandy soils. It grows from sea level to 1,950 m altitude. It grows in areas with a rainfall of about 100 mm per year. It can tolerate drought. It can grow in arid places. In the Brisbane Botanical gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. Seeds germinate easily.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow quickly.

NOTES

Also as Caesalpinaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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