PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia retivenea F. Muell.

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Net-veined wattle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Grub

A grub which grows in the roots is edible.

DESCRIPTION

A medium to tall shrub. It is straggly and grows 2-4 m high. It spreads 1-3 m across. The shoots are covered with white woolly hairs. The leaves (phyllodes) are 3-5 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. The leaves are nearly round or with the widest part above the middle. They have a blunt end and are thick and soft. They are bright green and hairy with 4 prominent veins. The flower heads are balls and dark yellow. Many flower heads occur and they are on short thick woolly flower stalks. They occur in clusters on the ends of branches. The pods are 3-5 cm across by 1-1.5 cm wide. They are flat and woody. They have a netted appearance and are hairy. The pods mature August to October.

HABITAT

It grows in inland Australia. It grows on gravely soils. It suits warmer regions. It needs a well drained soil and sunny position.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seed.

NOTES

There are about 1,350 Acacia species. Over 1,000 occur in Australia. Spelled "retivenia" is some works, but Mueller consistently used the spelling "retivenea". Also as Mimosaceae.

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