PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Crotalaria laburnifolia* Linn.

**GENUS** *Crotalaria* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Rattle-box, Bird-flower, Rattle-pod

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Pod, Leaves

## DESCRIPTION

An upright perennial plant. It is an evergreen shrub. It grows about 2 m tall. The leaves are yellowish-green. They have 3 leaflets. The leaflets are 3-5 cm long. The flowers are pea like with a light green keel and yellow standard. The fruit are yellow-brown pods. They are 3-15 cm long by 1 cm wide. There are 10-42 seeds that are orange-brown. They are 3-7 mm long.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the tropics. It can grow in areas which have moderate moisture or are dry. It needs an average, well-drained soil. It needs full sun. In tropical Queensland it grows from sea level to 550 m altitude. It suits hardiness zones 9-12.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds. The seeds need treatment to break the hard seed coat. It can be grown from cuttings.

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