PLANT FACT SHEET

Brachychiton rupestris (Mitchell ex Lindley) K. Schum.

GENUS *Brachychiton* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Bottle tree, Barrel tree, Narrow-leaved bottle tree, Queensland Bottle Tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum, Leaves, Roots, Seeds, Sap

The young leaves are used as a salad vegetable.
The gum is edible.
The young roots of seedling trees are boiled and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It can be 8-10 m tall. It develops a large bottle-shaped trunk. This can be 2 m across. The plant can spread 5-6 m wide. It loses many leaves during the year. Young leaves have deep lobes but adult leaves are undivided. They are 5-10 cm long by 7-8 mm wide, and bright green. Flowers are bell-shaped. They are 1.2 cm across. They occur in small clusters near the ends of branches. The fruit are boat-shaped follicles. They are dark brown and leathery. They are 2-3 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in drier regions. It cannot tolerate heavy frosts. It is very drought tolerant. It needs an acid pH. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall between 460-890 mm. It can grow in arid places. Melbourne Botanical gardens. National Arboretum Canberra. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. Young plants transplant easily.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is very slow growing.

NOTES

There are about 38 Brachychiton species. Most are in Australia.
Also put in the family Sterculiaceae.

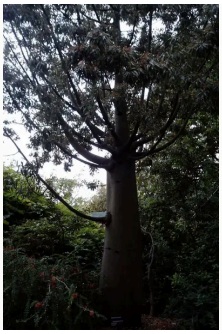
PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Anderson, M., 2002, The World Encyclopedia of Cacti and Succulents. Hermes House, New York. p 136

Bailey, F. M., 1913, Comprehensive Catalogue of Queensland Plants. Queensland Government. p 62

Barwick, M., 2004, Tropical and Subtropical Trees. A Worldwide Encyclopedic Guide. Thames and Hudson p 56

Bircher, A. G. & Bircher, W. H., 2000, Encyclopedia of Fruit Trees and Edible Flowering Plants in Egypt and the Subtropics. AUC Press. p 63

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 164

Cooper, W. and Cooper, W., 2004, Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest. Nokomis Editions, Victoria, Australia. p 530

Cribb, A.B. & J.W., 1976, Wild Food in Australia, Fontana. p 105, 138, 185

Elliot, W.R., & Jones, D.L., 1982, Encyclopedia of Australian Plants suitable for cultivation. Vol 2. Lothian. p 367

H. G. A. Engler & K. A. E. Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam. 3(6):96. 1893

Etherington, K., & Imwold, D., (Eds), 2001, Botanica's Trees & Shrubs. The illustrated A-Z of over 8500 trees and shrubs. Random House, Australia. p 139

Greig, D., 1996, Flowering Natives for Home Gardens. Angus & Robertson. p 87

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 635 (As Sterculia rupestris)

Hibbert, M., 2002, The Aussie Plant Finder 2002, Florilegium. p 45

Lazarides, M. & Hince, B., 1993, Handbook of Economic Plants of Australia, CSIRO. p 36

Lim, T. K., 2015, Edible Medicinal and Non Medicinal Plants. Volume 9, Modified Stems, Roots, Bulbs. Springer p 17

Llamas, K.A., 2003, Tropical Flowering Plants. Timber Press. p 266

Lord, E.E., & Willis, J.H., 1999, Shrubs and Trees for Australian gardens. Lothian. p 13

Low, T., 1991, Wild Food Plants of Australia. Australian Nature FieldGuide, Angus & Robertson. p 183

Menninger, E.A., 1977, Edible Nuts of the World. Horticultural Books. Florida p 43 (As Sterculia rupestris)

Molyneux, B & Forrester, S., 1997, The Austraflora A-Z of Australian Plants. Reed. p 57

Ratcliffe D & P., 1987, Australian Native Plants for Indoors. Little Hills press. p 64

Recher, P, 2001, Fruit Spirit Botanical Gardens Plant Index. www.nrg.com.au/~recher/ seedlist.html p 1, 5

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 11th June 2011]

Sukarya, D. G., (Ed.) 2013, 3,500 Plant Species of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia. LIPI p 523

Townsend, K., 1994, Across the Top. Gardening with Australian Plants in the tropics. Society for Growing Australian Plants, Townsville Branch Inc. p 105

Wickens, G.E., 1995, Edible Nuts. FAO Non-wood forest products. FAO, Rome. p156 (As Sterculia rupestris)

Williams, J.B., Harden, G.J., and McDonald, W.J.F., 1984, Trees and shrubs in rainforests of New South Wales and Southern Queensland. Univ. of New England, Armidale. p 35, 62, 98

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/312fe84b-cfb6-4e4f-8ab3-d57702284dfb