PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia complanata A. Cunn. ex Benth.

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Flat-stemmed wattle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

The seeds are edible.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It grows to 2-6 m high and spreads to 2-4 m wide. The stem is slender and the branches are flattened and zigzag in shape. The leaves (phyllodes) are oblong and 5-10 cm long. They are 1-3.5 cm wide. They are thick and dark green. The flowers are large yellow balls about 1 cm across. The flowers occur singly. The pods are light brown. They are 8-15 cm long and 0.6-0.8 cm wide. They are flat, pointed and curved when mature.

HABITAT

A subtropical species. It is adaptable to most soils and conditions. It is drought and frost resistant. It suits warmer places but can be grown in cooler places. It does best with a well drained soil and in a sunny position. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seed. The seed needs to be treated to break the hard seed coat. Normally this is by putting the seeds in very hot water and letting the water cool down overnight then planting the seeds immediately. Plants can be pruned to stop them becoming thin and straggly.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Flowers are from December to May and the pods occur between June and November.

NOTES

There are about 1,350 Acacia species. Over 1,000 occur in Australia. Also as Mimosaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/3d339d33-b199-4c97-af07-0e215221cecf