PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia spectabilis A. Cunn. ex Benth.

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Glory Wattle, Eumung

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers

The flowers are stripped from their stems and roasted and eaten. They can be steeped in brandy and sugar, coated with batter and deep fried.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It grows 5 m tall and spreads 2 m wide. The stem is erect and tall and fragile. The branches are nearly round in cross section. They are often bent and twisted. The leaves (phyllodes) are greyish-green and like a feather. They have 2 to 4 divisions of the leaves. Each division has 4 to 8 oval leaflets. The flowers are bright yellow balls. They occur as many flowers in a cluster. This makes it a very ornamental wattle. The pods are 5-10 cm long by 1-1.5 cm across. They are brown.

HABITAT

It occurs naturally in New South Wales and Queensland in Australia. (It occurs in the climatic range of 50-75 mm rainfall and the summer hot of 18°C and about 20 frosts in winter.) It prefers medium to heavy soils. It requires an open sunny position. It is drought and frost resistant. It cannot stand poor drainage. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seed. The seed need treatment 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. It can be grown from cuttings but they are fairly difficult to start to grow.

NOTES

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

PICTURES



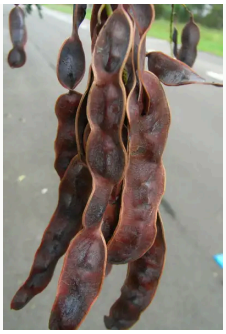
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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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