PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia hemignosta F. Muell.

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Club-leaf Wattle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Gum

The seeds are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A bushy tree. It grows up to 3-8 m tall. The branches hang downwards. It spreads to 3-4 m wide. The bark is rough and grey. It is a small straggly tree and the young branches are angular. The leaves (phyllodes) are smooth, curved and broadest above the middle. The leaf is 7-10 cm long and 0.8-2.5 cm wide. It is bluish grey. Normally there are 3 clearly seen veins running along the leaf. The leaf normally has a small curved point. The flowers are yellow. They occur in stalked flower branches towards the end of branches. The flowers are balls and 0.5 cm across. The pods are stiff and papery. They are 5-9 cm long by 1-1.5 cm across. The pods are constricted between the seeds. The pods have a wing along the edge. They are light brown when ripe and contain round seeds.

HABITAT

It occurs in Australia from the Kimberleys to north Queensland. It is often in sandy soils in open woodland. It needs good drainage and a sunny position. It suits tropical and dry climates.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seed. The seed need 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.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees flower in May to August and develop pods between July and September. The season can be a little later in some areas.

NOTES

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

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