PLANT FACT SHEET

Brachychiton australis (Schott & Endl.) Terracino

GENUS *Brachychiton* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Broad leafed bottle tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Seeds

The young roots of seedling trees can be eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 7-15 m tall and spreads 3-5 m wide. The trunk is swollen. The tree loses its leaves for short periods of time. The leaves are rounded and have 5-7 pointed lobes. The leaves are 10-20 cm long. The flowers are white or green and bell shaped. They are 3 cm across. The fruit is a boat shaped follicle. It is 7.5 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to NE Australia. It grows in scrub and vine forests in dry regions. It suits hot, dry climates. In central Queensland it grows from sea level to 800 m altitude. It requires a well drained soil and a sunny position. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. In Townsville Anderson BG.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

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

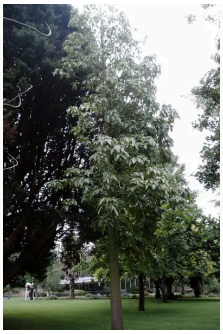
NOTES

There are about 30 Brachychiton species. Most are in Australia.
Also put in the family Sterculiaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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