PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia adsurgens Maiden et Blakely

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Mulga, Whipstick wattle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

The seeds are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It grows up to 2-4 m tall and spreads out 3-8 m wide. The stems can be 10-15 cm across. It has many stems which are thin and stick upright. The bark is brown and flaky. Young growth is covered with a sticky substance. The leaves (phyllodes) are greyish-brown. They are 10-13 cm long, narrow (0.2-0.4 cm) and thick. The flowers are short golden rods. These are 1.5 cm long. Pods occur in dense coiled clusters. They are 7-9 cm long and linear. They are sticky. The seeds are small and narrow with a soft coat.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It suits warm climates. It requires a well drained soil and a sunny position. It grows well in sandy soil. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seed. The seed needs to be treated to get it to grow. Normally this is by putting the seeds in very hot water and letting the water cool down overnight then planting the seeds immediately. Trees only last for a short time.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is moderately fast growing. It can grow 2 m tall in 18-24 months.

NOTES

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

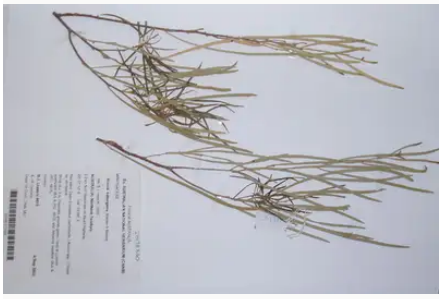
PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 7

Cancilla, D., 2018, Ethnobotanical and Ethnozoological Values Desktop Assessment - Eliwana Project. p

Cane, S., 1987, Australian Subsistence in the Western Desert. Human Ecology 15(4): pp 391-434

Cherikoff V. & Isaacs, J., The Bush Food Handbook. How to gather, grow, process and cook Australian Wild Foods. Ti Tree Press, Australia p 188

Doran, J.C., & Turnbull, J.W. (Eds), 1997, Australian Trees and Shrubs: species for land rehabilitation and farm plantings in the tropics. ACIAR Monograph No 24. p 120

Elliot, W.R., & Jones, D.L., 1982, Encyclopedia of Australian Plants suitable for cultivation. Vol 2. Lothian. p 13

Hall, N. et al, 1972, The Use of Trees and Shrubs in the Dry Country of Australia, AGPS, Canberra. p 343

J. Proc. Roy. Soc. Western Australia 13:28, t. xx. 1928

King, M. & Horsfall, J., 2023, Kimberley Bush Food. Edible Plants of the Kimberley Region of Western Australia. UWAP. p 19

Latz, P., 1996, Bushfires and Bushtucker. IAD. p 86

Lister, P.R., P. Holford, T. Haigh, and D.A. Morrison, 1996, Acacia in Australia: Ethnobotany and potential food crop. p. 228-236. In: J. Janick (ed.), Progress in new crops. ASHS Press, Alexandria, VA.

O'Connell, J.F., et al, 1983, Traditional and Modern Plant Use Among the Alyawara of Central Australia. Economic Botany. Vol. 37 p 105

Paczkowska, G. & Chapman, A.R., 2000, The Western Australian Flora. A Descriptive Catalogue. Western Australian Herbarium. p 297

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/8157617c-69e8-4b5f-8c27-ff25ba6739fe