PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia gonocarpa F. Muell.

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Wuluru

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds

The leaves are used to flavour food, especially kangaroo meat.

DESCRIPTION

A small woody shrub. It grows to 1-3 m high and is generally rounded in form. The bark is rough and flaky. It is smooth on young plants. The young shoots are sticky and flattened. The leaves (phyllodes) are smooth and without stalks. The are very narrow. They are 3.5-12 cm long and 0.1-0.5 cm wide. They are slightly stiff and light yellowish-green. They have one main vein running along the leaf. They have a hook at the tip. The flowers are pale yellow. They occur as loose spikes 3 cm long. They occur either singly or in pairs in the angles of leaves. The pod is smooth, narrow, hard and woody. It is 3.5-8 cm long by 0.3-0.6 cm wide. It tapers towards the base. It has a prominent ridge. The brown seeds are arranged diagonally.

HABITAT

It grows in sandstone country. It is tropical. It does not do well on heavy soils. It must have good drainage. It needs a sunny position.

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.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is quite fast growing.

NOTES

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

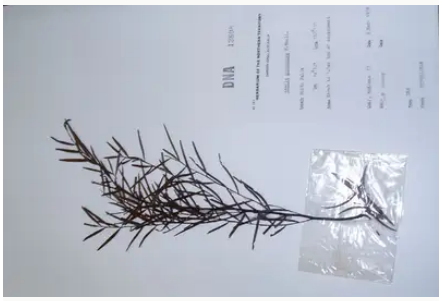
PICTURES



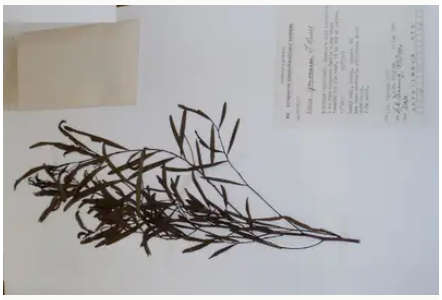
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