PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia stricta (Andr.) Willd.

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Hop Wattle, Straight Wattle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

The seeds are eaten green.

DESCRIPTION

It is an evergreen tree. It grows to 4 m high and spreads to 4 m across. The stem is erect and stiff. It has a spreading crown. The branches are angular and point upwards. The leaves (phyllodes) are dull green. They are 4-12 cm long by 0.3-0.8 cm wide and thick. The tip of the leaf can be blunt or with a small sharp point. The leaf normally has one prominent vein and fine side veins. The leaf is narrowed towards the base. There is also a gland near the base. The flowers are deep yellow balls about 0.5 cm across. They are in small clusters in the leaf axils. The flower heads have 50-60 small flowers. The pods are straight and flat. They are about 7 cm long and light brown. They are 0.4-1 cm wide and not constricted between the seeds.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows naturally in south eastern parts of Australia. It prefers light to heavy soils. It requires an open sunny position. It needs reasonably good rainfall. It is frost resistant. It needs fairly well drained soils. In Tasmania it is common and widespread in pastures and dry places. Tasmania Herbarium. Arboretum Tasmania.

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 also be grown from cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows quickly. Flowering is normally May to October.

NOTES

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

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/aa1a0386-8acd-4cd1-ae5b-bc004518b9cb