PLANT FACT SHEET

Brachychiton populneus (Schott. & Endl.) R. Br.

GENUS *Brachychiton* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Black kurrajong

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Gum, Roots, Sap, Seeds - coffee, Leaves

Caution. The fine irritant hairs need to be removed during harvesting.
The seeds are eaten raw or roasted. They can be ground into flour and used for dampers or scones.
They are also made into a coffee-like drink. They are roasted and ground then used to brew coffee.
The young roots are boiled and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It grows 10-20 m tall. It can spread 5-12 m wide. The trunk is stout. The young leaves have 3 lobes. The adult leaves are oval with a long point. They are shiny green on top and dull underneath. The leaves are 5-10 cm long by 2-4 cm wide. The flowers are separately male and female. They are bell shaped and are cream in the centre with red flecks. They are 1-2 cm long. They occur in small clusters. The fruit is a boat shaped follicle. It is leathery and 3-7 cm long. There are 12 or more seeds in a pod. The seeds are 8 mm long by 5 mm wide. The seeds have yellow prickly hairs.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to E. Australia. It grows in temperate and semiarid places. It will grow in a range of soil and climate conditions. It grows naturally on rocky hillsides. It needs well-drained soil. It will grow on limestone soils. It can stand heavy frosts. It can grow in coastal conditions. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall between 300-880 mm. It grows between 200-780 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places. In the Inland Botanical Gardens Mildura. National Arboretum Canberra. It suits hardiness zones 8-11. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. Young plants can be transplanted easily.

NOTES

The leaves are often used to feed animals in dry seasons. There are about 30 Brachychiton species. Most are in Australia.
Also put in the family Sterculiaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Anon., 2003, Native Plants for the Fitzroy basin. Society for Growing Australian Plants Inc. (Rockhampton Branch)

Barwick, M., 2004, Tropical and Subtropical Trees. A Worldwide Encyclopedic Guide. Thames and Hudson p 58

J. J. Bennett & R. Brown, Pl. jav. rar. 234. 1844

Bircher, A. G. & Bircher, W. H., 2000, Encyclopedia of Fruit Trees and Edible Flowering Plants in Egypt and the Subtropics. AUC Press. p 63

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 164 (Also as Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Brickell, C. (Ed.), 1999, The Royal Horticultural Society A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants. Convent Garden Books. p 186

Caton, J.M. & Hardwick, R. J., 2016, Field Guide to Useful Native Plants from Temperate Australia. Harbour Publishing House. p 330

Cherikoff V. & Isaacs, J., The Bush Food Handbook. How to gather, grow, process and cook Australian Wild Foods. Ti Tree Press, Australia p 57, 194 Also p 189 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Cribb, A.B. & J.W., 1976, Wild Food in Australia, Fontana. p 81, 138, 173

Cronin, L., 1989, The Concise Australian Flora. Reed. p 170 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Cundall, P., (ed.), 2004, Gardening Australia: flora: the gardener's bible. ABC Books. p 250

Edible and Useful Native Plants (off internet)

Elliot, W.R., & Jones, D.L., 1982, Encyclopedia of Australian Plants suitable for cultivation. Vol 2. Lothian. p 366 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Etherington, K., & Imwold, D., (Eds), 2001, Botanica's Trees & Shrubs. The illustrated A-Z of over 8500 trees and shrubs. Random House, Australia. p 139

Flora of Pakistan. www.eFloras.org (As populneum)

Gen. hist. 1:516. 1831 (As Sterculia diversifolia G. Don)

Hardwick, G., 2001, Economically Useful Plants for Northern Australia: Master Species List. Crusader eBooks.

Hardwick, R.J., 2000, Nature's Larder. A Field Guide to the Native Food Plants of the NSW South Coast. Homosapien Books. p 75

Hall, N. et al, 1972, The Use of Trees and Shrubs in the Dry Country of Australia, AGPS, Canberra. p 355

Hearne, D.A., & Rance, S.J., 1975, Trees for Darwin and Northern Australia. AGPS, Canberra p 35, Pl 10

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 634 (As Sterculia diversifolia G. Don)

Hibbert, M., 2002, The Aussie Plant Finder 2002, Florilegium. p 45

Holliday, I., 1989, A Field Guide to Australian Trees. Hamlyn. p 82

Hunter, J. T. & Sheringham, P., 2006, Vegetation and Floristics of Melville Range Nature Reserve. A Report to the New South Wales Parks and Wildlife Service. p 165

Hunter, J., 2015, Vegetation and flora of Naree and Yantabulla. A Draft Report to the Bush Heritage Australia

Hunter, J.T., 2017, Is there a relationship between contemporary high Aboriginal plant resource locations and mapped vegetation communities? Cunninghamia 17:27-34. The Royal Botanic Garden Sydney. ISSN 2200 - 405X

Hussey, B.M.J., Keighery, G.J., Cousens, R.D., Dodd, J., Lloyd, S.G., 1997, Western Weeds. A guide to the weeds of Western Australia. Plant Protection Society of Western Australia. p 224 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Lazarides, M. & Hince, B., 1993, Handbook of Economic Plants of Australia, CSIRO. p 36 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Lim, T. K., 2015, Edible Medicinal and Non Medicinal Plants. Volume 9, Modified Stems, Roots, Bulbs. Springer p 17

Lord, E.E., & Willis, J.H., 1999, Shrubs and Trees for Australian gardens. Lothian. p 13 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Low, T., 1991, Wild Food Plants of Australia. Australian Nature FieldGuide, Angus & Robertson. p 183 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Low, T., 1992, Bush Tucker. Australia's Wild Food Harvest. Angus & Robertson. p 27, 87 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

McKerney, M. & White, H., 2011, Bush Tucker, Boomerangs & Bandages. Border River-Gwyder Catchment Management Authority p 71

Menninger, E.A., 1977, Edible Nuts of the World. Horticultural Books. Florida p 43 (As Sterculia diversifolia G. Don)

Miller, J. B., James, K. W. and Maggiore, P.M.A., 1993, Tables of Composition of Australian Aboriginal Foods. Aboriginal Studies Press. Canberra

Molyneux, B & Forrester, S., 1997, The Austraflora A-Z of Australian Plants. Reed. p 57

Nash, D., 2004, Aboriginal Plant Use in south-eastern Australia. Australian National Botanic Gardens. p 9

Paczkowska, G . & Chapman, A.R., 2000, The Western Australian Flora. A Descriptive Catalogue. Western Australian Herbarium. p 538

Paget, A., 2010, Indigenous Plants of Greater Taree. Greater Taree City Council's Strategic Planning Department. p 15

Plants for a Future database, The Field, Penpol, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0NG, UK. http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/pfaf/ (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Recher, P, 2001, Fruit Spirit Botanical Gardens Plant Index. www.nrg.com.au/~recher/ seedlist.html p 1

Robins, J., 1996, Wild Lime. Cooking from the Bush food garden. Allen & Unwin p 172 (As Brachychiton populneus subsp. populneus)

Full reference list (14 more) at https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/ad0d38fd-beeb-47cd-b16d-ea7d4f020ded

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/ad0d38fd-beeb-47cd-b16d-ea7d4f020ded