PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia pruinocarpa Tindale

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Black gidgee

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Seeds - coffee, Gum, Honeydew, Roots

The seed are lightly roasted and ground into a paste then eaten. The white or yellow gum which exudes from the tree is eaten and enjoyed. The honey dew from a lerp insect on the leaves and stems is eaten. It is sweet.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree 3-10 m high and spreading 3-5 m across. It normally has several stems. The bark is dark and fibrous. The leaves (phyllodes) are 6-15 cm long by 0.5-3 cm wide. They are flat and stiff. They are curved, leathery and with a bluish bloom. They have one prominent vein and a large gland at the base of the leaf. The edge of the leaf is prominent. The flower heads are balls. They occur singly or in pairs. They are bright yellow. The pods are 3-10 cm long by 1-1.5 cm across. They are flat, leathery and with a bluish bloom. They are waxy. They are raised over the seeds. The seeds are nearly round and 5 mm across. They are black to dark brown when ripe.

HABITAT

It occurs in inland areas in Australia. It is mostly on rocky or sandy soils. It suits a hot dry climate. It needs a well drained soil and sunny position. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is difficult to separate the seeds from the pod. It produces large quantities of gum. It flowers only in mid summer.

NOTES

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

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