



PLANT FACT SHEET

Acacia colei Maslin & M.A.J. Thomson

GENUS *Acacia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Candelabra Wattle, Cole's wattle, Soap wattle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Gum

The green seeds are roasted within the pods. The ripe seeds are ground to make flour.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub which grows up to 5 m tall. The tips of the small branches are very angular. The leaves (phyllodes) are densely hairy. They are silvery. The flowers are a light golden colour. The pods are clustered together and curved or coiled. The pods are constricted between the seeds. Mature pods are brown. The seeds are oval and shiny black. The aril or seed outgrowth is bright yellow.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It occurs in Australia in red sands. It suits hard arid conditions.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Due to the hard seed coat they should be soaked in hot water. They can be grown in a nursery and transplanted.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Seeds can be stored. The seed are highly nutritious having 21% protein, 10% fat and 57% carbohydrate. Plants flower April to July in the southern hemisphere and fruit September to October.

NOTES

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

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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PROVIDED BY Food Plants International

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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