



PLANT FACT SHEET

Cassia brewsteri (F. Muell.) F. Muell. ex Benth.

GENUS *Cassia* FAMILY Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Leichhardt Bean, Brewster's cassia, Golden Shower tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Gum

The young seeds are roasted and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A large shrub or small tree. It grows 5-12 m high. It can spread 4-7 m wide. In rainforest it can grow 30 m high. The bark is dark grey and furrowed. The leaves are alternate and pinnate. The leaves have 4-8 dark green leaflets. These are 4-6 cm long by 1-1.5 cm wide. They are paler underneath. They flowers are dull yellow. They hang down on long strings. The pods are long and slightly flattened. The pods are 45 cm long. The pods are divided into segments. The pods turn dark brown to black. The seeds are flat and yellowish-brown.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to N.E. Australia. It grows in drier regions as well as warm humid coastal lowlands. It suits warm temperate regions and into tropical regions. It needs well drained soil. It needs full sunlight. It cannot stand frost. It suits hardiness zones 10-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The seed need treatment to get them to grow. Plants can also be grown by aerial layering and grafting.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow very quickly.

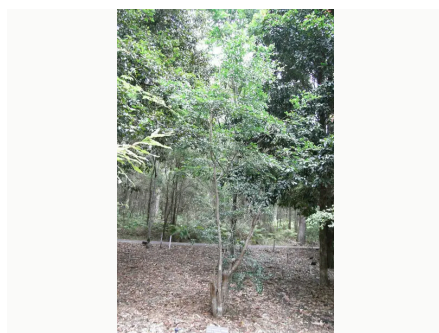
NOTES

There are 100 *Cassia* species. This group has been revised to a smaller more consistent group. Also as *Caesalpinaceae*.

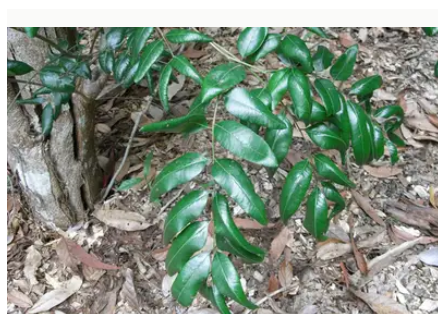
PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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