

Acacia celsa Tindale

Family:
Fabaceae

Tindale, M.D. (2000) *Australian Systematic Botany* 13: 34. Type: 2.5 km on Mission Beach Rd, 4 Oct. 1996, M. W. Mc Donald & P. A. Butcher; holo: NSW; iso: K, PERTH, BRI.

Common name:

Wattle, Hickory; Salwood, Brown; Acacia Tree; Brown Salwood; Black Wattle; Brush Ironbark Wattle; Hickory Wattle; Wattle; Brown Salwood; Wattle, Brush Ironbark; Wattle, Black

Stem

Living bark strong and fibrous. Crown rather spreading but thin with the leaves on the periphery.

Leaves

Leaves phyllodineous. Leaf blades about 6-10 x 0.9-1.9 cm, green or slightly glaucous, margins thickened like veins. Veins longitudinal, +/- parallel, not anastomosing, about 3-7 somewhat thicker than the rest. One marginal gland usually visible at the junction of the petiole and the blade.

Flowers

Spikes yellow, moderately dense, about 2-5.5 cm long, on scurfy peduncles about 2-7 mm long. Calyx about 0.5-1 mm long with scurfy lobes, 0.2-0.3 mm long. Corolla about 1.5-1.9 mm long, glabrous, about 2-3 times as long as the calyx, lobes about as long as the tube. Stamens about 3 mm long. Ovary shortly pubescent, scurfy.

Fruit

Pod +/- flat, somewhat woody, prominently obliquely transversely veined, about 2-10 x 1-2 cm. Seeds shiny black, transversely oriented in the pod, about 5.5 x 2.5 mm. Funicle grey, white or cream, flat, rather broad, folded about five times forming an aril-like structure beneath the seed. Twisted curved pods usually present beneath mature trees.

Seedlings

Cotyledons oblong-elliptic, about 5-7 mm long. First leaf pinnate, second leaf bipinnate. At about the third or fourth leaf stage: leaves bipinnate, petiole broadly flattened. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves phyllodineous, linear or falcate, glabrous, usually with three main parallel veins running from the base to the apex; stem slightly 4-angled; stipules minute, falling early. Seed germination time 9 to 48 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Queensland, occurs in NEQ and CEQ. Altitudinal range from sea level to 1100 m. Grows in well developed rain forest and some of the drier, more seasonal rain forests. This is a fast growing species which is favoured by disturbance and is a characteristic regrowth species in North Queensland rain forest. This species and the species complex formerly included in *A. aulacocarpa* is currently being revised and a number of new species will be described to accommodate the various entities previously included.

Natural History & Notes

Although this is a fast-growing species it can produce reasonable logs and the timber can be quite useful. Sometimes used as a substitute for teak.

Wood specific gravity 0.80. Cause et al. (1989).

Synonyms

Acacia aulacocarpa A.Cunn. ex Benth., *The London Journal of Botany* 1: 378(1842), Type: Port Bowen, N. Coast, Cunningham.

RFK Code

183



Leaves, flowers and fruit. © CSIRO



Fruit, side view and dehiscent. © W. T. Cooper



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



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