

Caesalpinia major (Medik.) Dandy & Exell

Family:
Fabaceae

Dandy, J.E. & Exell, A.W. (1938) *The Journal of Botany* 76 : 180.

Common name:
Yellow Nicker; Hawaii Pearls

Stem

Vine stem diameters to 4 cm recorded. Blaze odour may resemble that of green beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*).

Leaves

Leaflet blades about 3-5 x 2-3 cm, leaflet stalks about 1 mm long. Underside of the leaflet blades clothed in short pale yellowish hairs. Twigs and leaves often without spines. Stipules linear, about 1-2 mm long.

Flowers

Inflorescence about 10-50 cm long. Pedicels about 6-12 mm long. Sepals about 9-12 mm long. Petals obovate, about 12-15 mm long. Stamens about 8-12 mm long, anthers about 1.4-1.8 mm long. Ovary about 7 mm long. Ovules 4 per ovary.

Fruit

Fruits about 8-13 x 4-6 cm, base acute, apex obtuse, surface clothed in spines about 5-10 mm long. Style persistent at the apex as a beak about 11 mm long. Seeds 2-4 per pod, each seed about 15-25 mm diam., testa yellow to brown or greenish grey.

Seedlings

Features not available.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in WA. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 250 m. Grows in vine thicket. Also found in the Americas, Madagascar, Asia, Malesia and the Pacific islands.

Natural History & Notes

This species may have medicinal properties.

Used in the manufacture of necklaces.

Synonyms

Bonduc majus Medik., *Theod. Spec.* : 43(1786), Type: Moluccas, Rumphius, Herb. Amboin. 5: t. 48 (1747); lecto: the plate. **Caesalpinia broomensis** Hochr., *Candollea* : 385(1925), Type: Western Australia, Broome, 4 feb. 1905, B. P. G. Hochreutiner 2841; holo: G(?).

RFK Code

2230



Flower. © R.L. Barrett



Leaves and inflorescence. © R.L. Barrett



Fruit. © R.L. Barrett



Fruit. © R.L. Barrett



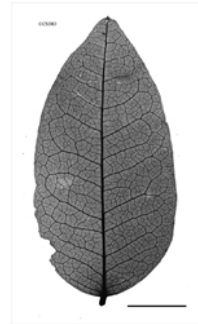
Habit and leaves. © R.L. Barrett



Seed. © R.L. Barrett



Vine stem bark and vine stem transverse section. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, hypogeal germination. © CSIRO



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