



Acacia auriculiformis

PEA FAMILY

Fabaceae; Subfamily: Mimosaceae

COMMON NAMES

English: earleaf acacia, Japanese acacia, northern black wattle, tan wattle

Cambodia: acacia sleuk toch, smach tehs

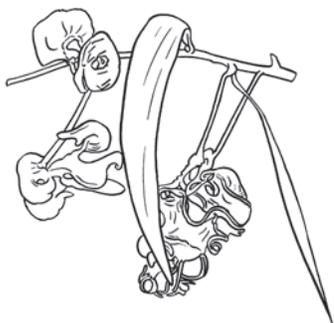
Indonesia: akasia kuning, pohon akasia

Malaysia: akasia kuning, bunga siam, kasia

Philippines: auri

Thailand: kratin-narong

Vietnam: keo lá tram, tràm bông vàng



DESCRIPTION

Evergreen tree with no thorns/spines [8–20 (–35) m tall], trunk 60 cm in diameter, often multi-stemmed with compact spread.

Bark: Grey or brown, sometimes black at the base, smooth in young trees, becoming rough and longitudinally fissured with age.

Leaves: Greyish-green, 'leaves' are flattened leaf stalks called phyllodes, slightly curved (8–20 cm long and 1.0–4.5 cm wide), hairless and thinly textured; 3–7 longitudinal veins running together towards the lower margin or in the middle near the base, with many fine, crowded secondary veins, and a distinct gland at the base of the phyllodes.

Flowers: Light golden-orange, minute, in spikes (8.5 cm long), fragrant.

Fruits: Pods (several-seeded dry fruits that split open at maturity), green turning brown as they mature, initially straight or curved becoming twisted and coiled (6.5 cm long and 1.5 cm wide) containing shiny black seeds (0.4–0.6 cm long and 0.3–0.4 cm wide) encircled by a long red, yellow or orange structure.

ORIGIN

Australia and Papua New Guinea.

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Fuelwood, building materials, timber, pulp, erosion control, land reclamation, shade and ornament.

INVADES

Roadsides, disturbed areas, wastelands, urban open space, forest edges/gaps and riparian vegetation.

IMPACTS

Displaces native vegetation and shades out indigenous plant species. In Florida, USA, it threatens rare plant species such as the listed scrub pinweed, *Lechea cernua* Sm. (Cistaceae), in remnant scrub areas (K. C. Burks, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, *pers. obs.*, in FLEPPC, 2015). In Singapore, it is very persistent in disturbed and secondary forests (Tan, 2011). It is also considered to be allelopathic, inhibiting the germination and growth of agricultural crops tested (Hoque *et al.*, 2003).



Acacia auriculiformis A. Cunn. ex Benth.



©Nghiem Quynh Chi



©Bundit Hongthong



©Bundit Hongthong



©Nghiem Quynh Chi