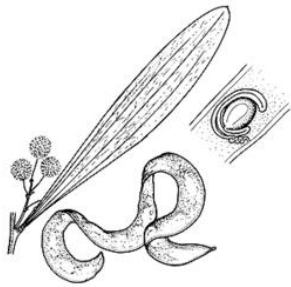


Mimosaceae
Acacia melanoxylon
 blackwood, black wattle



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ETYMOLOGY

(a-KAY-sha) Greek akakia from akis = sharp point; The Greek species melanoxyton (mel-lah-NOX-ee-lon) mela = black dark + xulon = wood, cut and ready for use, or tree, referring to the dark timber of this species.

LIFEFORM

Tree 5-30 m x 3-4 m spread

STATUS

Well conserved; Common along Eastern Australia Qld, NSW, Vic, SA, WA, Tas;

OCCURS

Sunshine Coast Q, Mt Dromedary NSW, Otway NP Vic, SA, Quinninup WA Tas

HABITAT

Dry subtropical lowland Rainforest, AMVf, ANVf, WRf

LEAVES

Alternate, 6-15 x 2 cm, oblanceolate, straight firm, narrowing to both ends, apex acute to obtuse with a mucro, dark olive green, with 3-7 main longitudinal net-veins

FLOWERS

Ball-shaped globular 2-8 cream to lemon 30-50 heads in short branched clusters.

Flowering times Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan

FRUIT

Pods, 4-12 cm, twisted curled, brown; Seeds with stalk orange to reddish folded surrounding black hard-coated seeds; weight 16mg; may survive for up to 500 years (Bradstock 1981)

Fruiting times Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, March

BARK

Greyish to dark brown hard fissured scaly underbark off-white; ribs on young branches are light coloured. Young shoots hairy, twigs angled, at first pubescent, becoming hairless.

TRUNK or STEM

Cylindrical coppice & suckers from roots, trunk 100cm DBh young branchlets/shoots hairy.

ETHNOBOTANY

Used for windbreak erosion control; fixes nitrogen; Timber dark brown golden with light to dark brown stripes; Used for cabinets work furniture, violin backs, guitars, framing, flooring, lining, panelling, joinery, mouldings; Also suitable for indoor/outdoor building purposes.

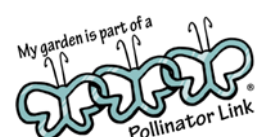
Wildlife habitat, tannin, dyes, ornamental; Bark is rich in tannins; Good source of Nitrogen rich pollen for bees and honeyeaters such as Red/Little Wattlebird; Bark/leaves contain tannic acid for tanning and dyeing material; useful nesting hollows for rosellas; Hardy fast growing shade & good timber tree, useful for protecting more sensitive plants.

TOLERANCE:

Full sun. Frost and salinity tolerant, useful for protecting more sensitive plants.

INSECTS

Lichplants.undulata, *Aleurotrachelus limbatus*, *Eucorcoris tumidiceps*, *Inatixa*, *Melobasis purpurascens*, *Praxis edwardsii*, *Tetraleurodes acaciae*, *Tetraleurodes niger*, *Natixa flavescens*, *Xysticus bimaculatus*



MISTLETOES:	<i>Amyema congener</i> , <i>Amylothea dictyophleba</i> ; <i>Benthamina alyxifolia</i> ,
BIRD	Australian King Parrot, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, Currawong, Crested Pigeon, Spotted Turtle-dove, Brown Cuckoo-dove, Crimson Rosella (seeds Lepschi 1993)
BUTTERFLY	<i>Eurema hecabe</i> Common Grass Yellow, <i>Hypochrysops delicia</i> Moonlight Jewel, <i>Jalmenus evagoras</i> Common Imperial Blue, <i>Jalmenus iclinus</i> Stencilled Imperial Blue, <i>Pseudalmenus chlorinda</i>
INDIGENOUS USES	Hot infusion of roasted bark is used to alleviate rheumatism: source of an analgesic (pain killer). Edible seed. Leaves pounded and used as fish poison; Bark & twigs stupefy fish, inner bark fibre made fishing lines, edible gum soaked in water to form jelly, wood made shields & spear throwers,
ID FEATURE	Phyllodes narrow slightly sickle-shaped (falcate), thin, single mid-veins sharp curved tips. Flowers large solitary, creamy white balls + Pods 5-8 mm wide; twisted tangled seed-stalk orange to reddish, folded ±completely surrounding seed.