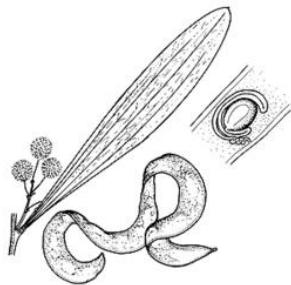


Mimosaceae
Acacia melanoxylon
 blackwood, black wattle



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ETYMOLOGY

(a-KAY-sha) Greek akakia from akis = sharp point; The Greek species *melanoxylon* (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; Sunshine Coast Q, Mt Dromedary NSW, Otway NP Vic, SA, Quinninup WA Tas

OCCURS

Dry subtropical lowland Rainforest, AMVf, ANVf, WRf

HABITAT

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.

FRUIT

Flowering times Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan

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)

BARK

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

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.undulatella, Aleurotrachelus limbatus, Eucerocoris tumidiceps, Inataxa, Melobasis purpurascens, Praxis edwardsii, Tetraleurodes acaciae, Tetraleurodes niger, Nataxa flavesrens, Xysticus bimaculatus

MISTLETOES:	<i>Amyema congener, Amylotheca dictyophleba; 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 ictinus</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.