

Acacia melanoxyton
(FABACEAE)

NOMENCLATURE: IDENTIFICATION:

Accepted Name: Acacia melanoxyton R. Br.

Approved by: GMC

References: See Bibliography*

Synonyms:

Identification:

FRACTIONATOR:

DESCRIPTION: Unarmed tree up to 20 m. high; young branchlets angular, glabrous or the young shoots minutely pubescent. Leaves phyllodic, apparently simple, glabrous, mostly 6-12 X 0.6-1.2 (2.5) cm. linear-lanceolate to oblanceolate or narrowly obovate, straight to falcate, narrowed basally, with 3-7 prominent longitudinal nerves and a conspicuous reticulate venation between the longitudinal nerves (on young plants bipinnate leaves are sometimes produced at the apex of the phyllode). Inflorescences globose, solitary or in short axillary racemes. Flowers pale yellowish-white, on peduncles up to 6 mm. long. Calyx more than half as long as the corolla. Corolla glabrous. Pods brown, 5-15 X 0.6-0.8 cm. oblong, falcate or variously coiled or spirally twisted, flattened, margins thickened, not constricted between the seeds, dehiscing longitudinally along both margins. Seeds dark brownish-black, 4-5 X \pm 2.5 mm., smooth, compressed; areole \pm 3 X 1 mm.; funicle very long, thickened, almost encircling the seed in a double fold.

ECOLOGY: Native of Australia: Rich soil in valleys, grasslands in mountains. Flowers September-October.

COMMENTS: Cultivated in East and South Africa and has escaped in some areas. Also, probably cultivated elsewhere.

Bentham mentions this species as being abundant throughout Tasmania.

USES: Well known by the common name "blackwood". Wood is used for furniture making and other construction purposes.

Bark has been used as a fish poison by the aborigines. Also, has been suspected in livestock poisoning.

Acacia

ACTIVITY DATA IN SPECIES OF Acacia:

<u>A. albida</u>	WA	DN		Kupchan
<u>A. angustissima</u>	SA	DK	Tannin	Brewer
<u>A. catechu</u>	LL	C		
<u>A. cunninghamii</u>	WA	DM		Price
<u>A. decurrens</u>	KB	C		Kupchan
<u>A. gerrardii</u>	WA	DM		Jordaan
<u>A. glomerosa</u>	PS	C		Hudson
<u>A. ixiophylla</u>	LL	DK	Tannin	Clark-Lewis
<u>A. leptocarpa</u>	WA	DM		Price
<u>A. mearnsii</u>	WA	C		
<u>A. melanoxylon</u>	SA, KB	C		Price
<u>A. pilispina</u>	WA	C	Tannin	Kupchan
<u>A. pulchella</u>	WA	C		Jeffries
<u>A. rhodoxylon</u>	LL	DM		Price
<u>A. suberiana</u> var. <u>villosa</u>	PS	C		Quimby
<u>A. simsii</u>	SA	DM		Price
<u>A. spectabilis</u>	WA	C		Price

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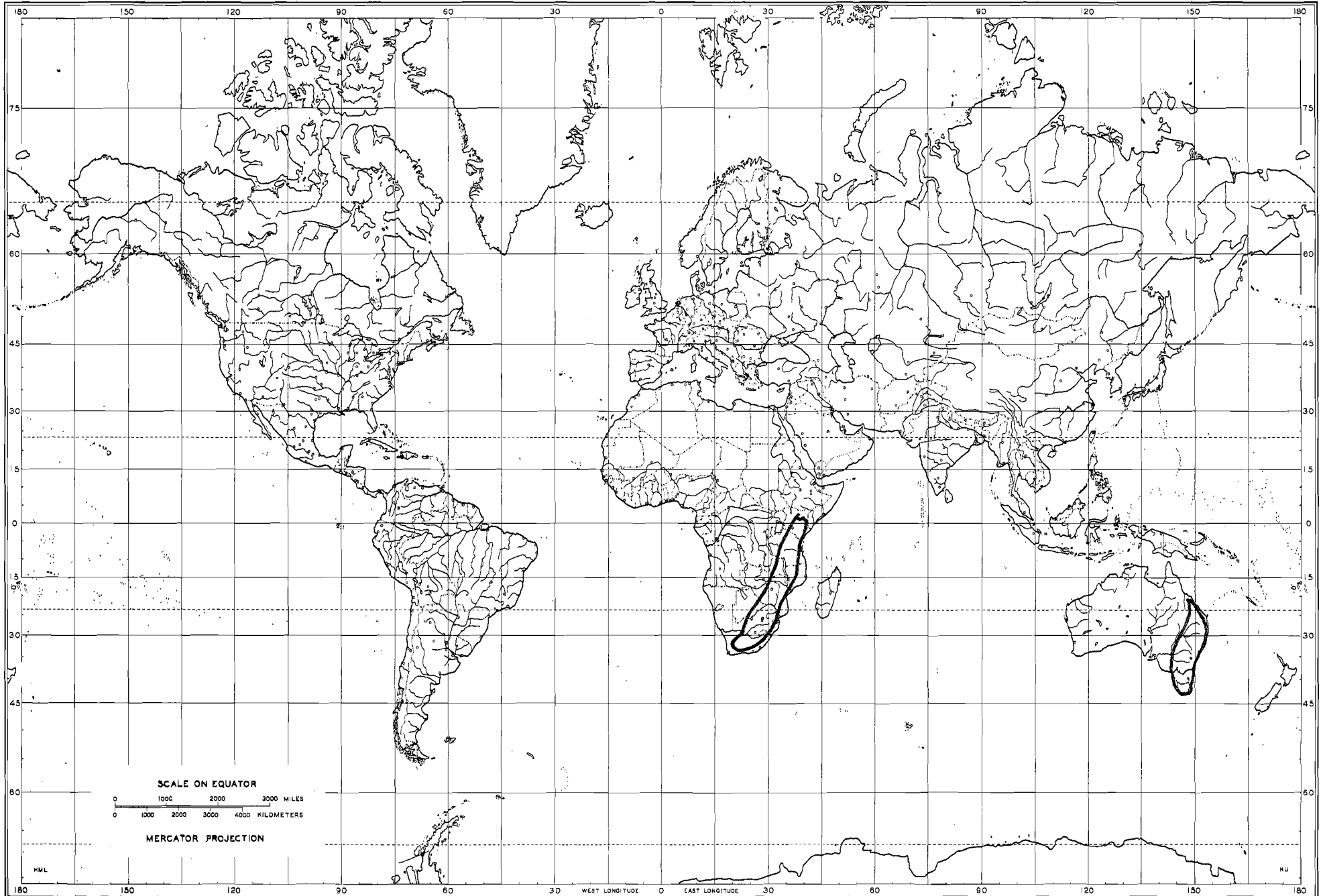
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WORLD MERCATOR



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