



Brown salwood

(*Acacia mangium*)

Originated in Australia, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia. Introduced in numerous tropical regions for its wood (firewood, paper, etc.) or for reforestation of land.

Description

- The trunk can grow to a height of 30 metres with a diameter at the base of 50 centimetres
- Rough bark, with longitudinal furrows, ranging in colour from light grey-brown to brown
- Phyllodes (stems that have transformed into leaves) range from 11 to 27 cm in length and 3 to 10 cm in width, are dark green in colour, have a smooth pulvinus (a thick section at the base of the stem) 6 to 10 mm in length and longitudinal veins, generally 4 in number
- Inflorescence in loose off-shoots, between 5 and 12 cm long, small flowers white to yellowish in colour
- Long pods that curl when mature, 7 to 8 cm long and 0.3 to 0.5 cm wide
- Bright black seeds, oval to oblong in shape, 3 to 5 mm long and 2 to 3 mm wide, with a yellow to bright orange funiculus (stalk attaching to the ovary wall)

Ecology and reproduction

- A pioneer species that grows in open areas (savannahs, plains), but also in forests
- It follows on fires and can tolerate a wide range of pH levels in the soil
- Rapid growth, up to 2.5 metres per year
- Hermaphroditic, self-pollinating plant, produces viable seeds starting at 18 to 20 months of age
- The trees flower from February to May in their original range

Documentation

- Delnattte C. et Meyer J-Y. 2012. Plant introduction, naturalization, and invasion in French Guiana (South America). *Biol. Invasions*. 14: 915-297.
- CABI. 2018. *Invasive Species Compendium : Acacia mangium (brown salwood)*. <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/2325>
- Orwa C., Mutua A., Kindt R., Jamnadass R. and Anthony S., 2009. *Agroforestry Database: a tree reference and selection guide, version 4.0*. http://www.worldagroforestry.org/treedb/AFTPDFS/Acacia_mangium.PDF

Author: Doriane Blottière, IUCN French committee, for the Resource Centre on invasive alien species in conjunction with the overseas IAS initiative. December 2018. Published by the French Biodiversity Agency.

Classification

Order	Fabales
Family	Fabaceae
Genus	<i>Acacia</i>
Species	<i>A. mangium</i> (Willd, 1806)

