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**

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