



Acacia

Accacias include a diverse group of arid region landscape plants ranging from trees to shrubs to groundcovers. Acacias offer shade, screening, and spectacular flower shows for your landscape, depending upon the plant selected. They are primarily full sun plants and tolerate a variety of soil conditions. Tree acacias require infrequent, yet periodic deep watering to develop a healthy root system. This is done by watering along the edge of the canopy and not at the base of the trunk. All Australian acacias have modified leaf stems called phyllodes, which are commonly thought to be their leaves, and perform the same functions as the leaves.



Acacia farnesiana



Acacia saligna

Acacia salicina



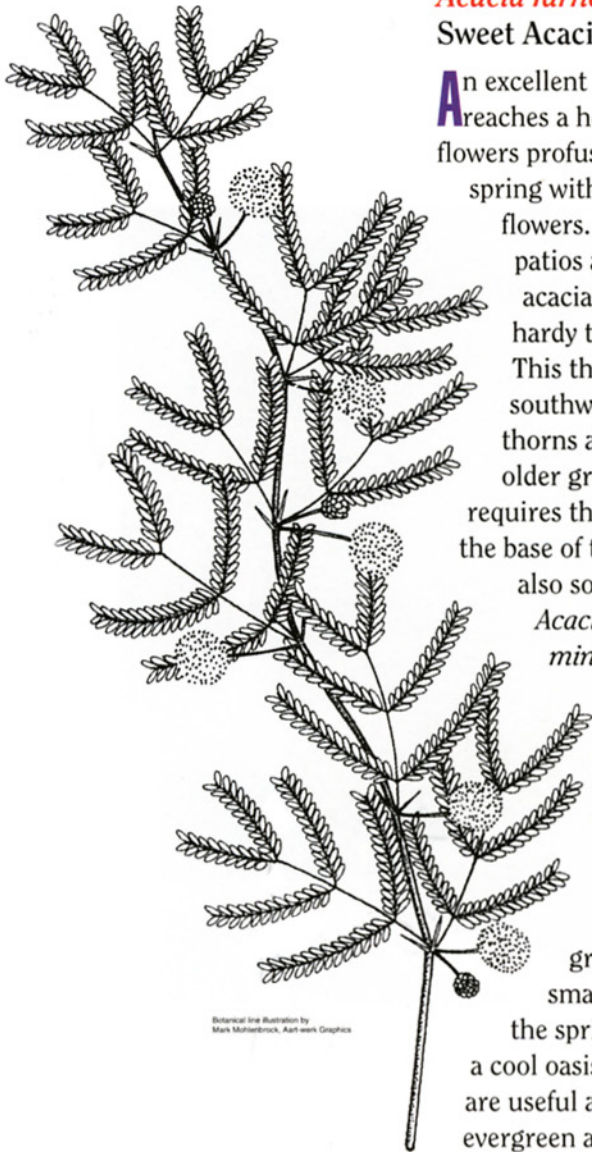


XERISCAPE

Nature's Choice of Landscape

Acacia farnesiana
Sweet Acacia

An excellent shade tree, sweet acacia reaches a height of 20 feet. Sweet acacia flowers profusely in the winter to early spring with fragrant, yellow puffball flowers. It is especially suited for patios and small yards. Sweet acacia is semi-deciduous and cold-hardy to 12 degrees Fahrenheit. This thorny tree is native to the southwestern United States. The thorns are not as prominent on the older growth. Initial maintenance requires that suckers be pruned from the base of the trunk. Sweet acacia is also sold under the names of *Acacia smallii* and *Acacia minuta*.



Botanical line illustration by Mark Mottet/Arcaid.com

Acacia salicina
Willowleaf Acacia

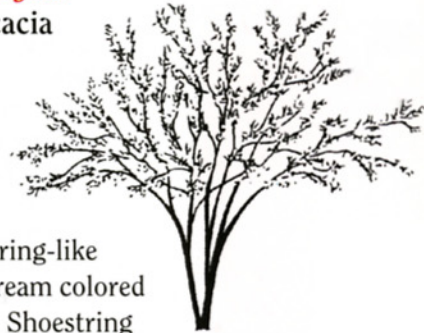
This semi-weeping acacia tree grows 25 feet high and up to 15 feet wide with long, slender, blue-green, willow-like foliage and small, creamy puffball flowers in the spring. Willowleaf acacias evoke a cool oasis effect in the landscape, and are useful as screening tree. They are evergreen and native to Australia.

Acacia saligna
Goldwreath Acacia

This fast growing shrub or small tree with narrow, deep lustrous leaves reaches up to 20 feet in height. Goldwreath acacia has a spectacular spring display of yellow-orange puffball flowers. This thornless plant is preferred as a tall, screening shrub, or may be pruned as a small shade tree for patios and small areas. It is evergreen and native to Australia.

Acacia stenophylla
Shoestring Acacia

This slender, upright tree may eventually grow to 30 feet in height with weeping, shoestring-like phyllodes and cream colored puffball flowers. Shoestring acacia makes a fine specimen tree or may be grouped in small groves as a visual screen. It is evergreen and native to Australia. This tree is commonly recommended for pool areas due to its low litter. One of the many values of this plant is its ability to cast shadows that provide filtered shade for yards and structures.



CHARACTERISTICS

Botanical Name Common Name	Size Ht. x W.	Evergreen	Flower Season	Flower Color	Foliage Texture	Foliage Color	Hardiness (degrees F)	Growth Rate	Litter	Thorns	Exposure
<i>Acacia farnesiana</i> Sweet Acacia	20x20	Y	Winter	Yellow	Fine	Dark Green	12	Mod.	Min.- Mod.	Y	Sun
<i>Acacia salicina</i> Willowleaf Acacia	25x15	Y	Fall	White	Med.	Dark Green	22	Fast	Min.	N	Sun
<i>Acacia saligna</i> Goldwreath Acacia	20x20	Y	Spring	Yellow	Med.	Green	22	Mod.	Mod.	N	Sun
<i>Acacia stenophylla</i> Shoestring Acacia	30x20	Y	Fall	White	Med.	Blue Green	18	Fast	Min.	N	Sun