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Paraserianthes lophantha

[Synonyms : *Acacia lophantha*, *Albizia distachya*, *Albizia lophantha*, *Mimosa distachya*, *Mimosa elegans*, *Paraserianthes distachya*]

CAPE WATTLE is an evergreen shrub or tree. Native to south-western Australia, and to parts of south-eastern Asia (including Indonesia) it has brush-like spikes of greenish-yellow flowers with long stamens.

It is also known as *Acácia* (Portuguese), *Acacia à fleurs en touffes* (French), *Albitsia* (Finnish), *Albizia* (Portuguese), *Albizzia* (French), Brush wattle, *Büschelblütige Albizie* (German), Cape Leeuwin wattle, Crested wattle, *Mimosa à fleurs en touffes* (French), Plume acacia, Plume albizia, *Rumsakacia* (Swedish), Stink bean, *Stue-Akacie* (Danish), Swamp wattle, and *Zylinder-Albizie* (German).

The heavy seeds are dispersed by ants, water or humans.

In Queensland (Australia), New Zealand and South Africa cape wattle is viewed as an invasive plant.

Lophantha is derived from Greek *lophos* (crest) meaning ‘flowering in tufts or with crested flowers’.

Cape wattle is planted as a garden ornamental.

For authorities on south-eastern Asia this plant is primarily of importance in that region as a shade or cover plant in agriculture and then for other qualities that recommend it for mulches and green manures, and spices and condiments, as well as fuel plants, charcoal and firewood.