

Harsh Hakea



Scientific name: *Hakea prostrata*

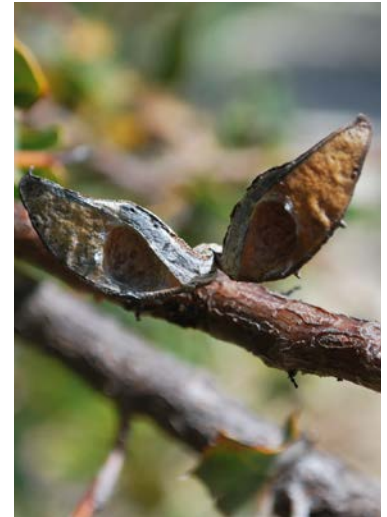
Aboriginal name: Janda (Noongar)



Plant habit



Flower



Woody fruit

About ...

There are about 120 species of Hakea in Australia with 80 species native to the south-west of Western Australia.

Hakeas are named after the German botanical patron, Baron von Hake (1745 – 1818).

Harsh Hakea gets its name from its prickly leaves. It is one of Perth's toughest plants and if damaged will resprout readily. The seedlings are hardy.

Species native to areas where fire regularly occurs often have a 'lignotuber'. This is a woody swelling at or below ground level from which the plant can regenerate if the above ground stems are destroyed. However, this species of Hakea does not have lignotubers.

Aboriginal Uses



- The woody fruits are placed in an open fire, then the seeds are eaten
- They are said to taste like roasted almonds
- The bark was burnt into a white ash that was used to heal wounds
- The nectar was used to make a sweet drink

Family

PROTEACEA

Climate

Tropical, temperate and arid

Habitat

Heathlands with medium to low trees, hill slopes, granite outcrops, coastal dunes, floodplains and winter-wet flats

Form

Shrub or small tree
Can grow upright or low to the ground
Height: 0.3 – 5.0 m
Width: 1.5 – 2.0 m
Bark rough, grey-brown

Foliage

Leaves alternate on each side of the stem
Oval shaped, flat and prickly
Length: 20 – 70 mm
Width: 5 – 50 mm

Flower

Makuru to Kambarang (Winter to Spring)
Small, occurring in clusters
White-to-cream with honey-like nectar
Insect and bird attracting

Fruit

Follow on from flowers
Tough, woody exterior
Open once a year to release the seed
Winged seed contained inside
Seed is 18 – 20 mm long

Developed by SERCUL for use with the *Bush Tucker Education Program*.



Used as food



Used as medicine



Used as resources



Local to SW WA

Caution: Do not prepare bush tucker food without having been shown by Indigenous or experienced persons. Some bush tucker if eaten in large quantities or not prepared correctly can cause illness.

SERCUL

South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare
www.sercul.org.au/our-projects/
bushucker/

ALGAE BUSTER



PHOSPHORUS
AWARENESS
PROJECT