



Clanthus formosus, Cult.

the two dorsal sepals joined for about $\frac{1}{2}$ their length, the sepals otherwise joined for less than $\frac{1}{2}$ their length, the teeth narrow and tapering to

Clitoria

Shrubs or vines with pinnate leaves with 3-9 leaflets. Stipels present. Flowers inverted, large and showy, the standard pointing downwards and much longer than the other petals. Stamens 10, 9 filaments joined in a dorsally split tube, 1 free. Style prominently bearded on the upper side below the stigma. Pods 5-10 seeded.

Key to species

Shrubs; leaves pinnate with 3 leaflets
Vines; leaves pinnate with 5-9 leaflets

C. laurifolia
C. ternatea

Clitoria laurifolia

Perennial shrub, the stems usually erect, up to 0.9m tall, densely covered with adpressed hairs. Stipules triangular, 4-6mm long, c. 3mm wide at the base. Leaves pinnate, with three leaflets. Petiole 2-6mm long, rachis 5-25mm long. Stipels 1-2.5mm long, sometimes deciduous. Leaflets 30-100mm long, 15-40mm wide, broadest about the mid-point, tapering to the base, the tip broadly rounded and often indented, hairless on the upper surface, covered with soft adpressed hairs on the paler undersurface.

Inflorescence a 1-2 flowered raceme borne on a 5-50mm axillary peduncle, the flowers borne on c. 4mm pedicels within the axils of c. 2mm bracts. Calyx 20-28mm long, with a pair of broad c. 7mm bracteoles on either side, hairy, the heart-shaped teeth c. $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the tube. Corolla purple to nearly white, 40-60mm long, the standard minutely hairy on the back.

Pod 25-40mm long, c. 8mm wide, separated from the calyx by a prominent c. 12mm narrow stalk, hairless, containing 5-7 sticky 3mm long plump seeds.

fine points. Standard c. 45mm long, 35mm wide, the sides bending backwards, bright red with a shiny black boss at the base. Wings c. 45mm long from base of calyx, 7mm wide, bright red, shorter than the bright red c. 65mm keel.

Pod 65-80mm long, softly hairy, very inflated, prominently stalked above the calyx, containing numerous seeds.

Distribution: Ma., Mi. Also N.T., W.A., S.A., N.S.W. Endemic to Australia.

Notes: Sparingly eaten by stock. An attractive garden ornamental. Nodulates. Reported to be self-incompatible but sets seed when hand-pollinated (author's unpublished data).

References: 3, 111, 172, 174, 337; as *C. dampieri*, 17, 132.

Distribution: N.K. Native of South America, found only rarely in Queensland around Cardwell. Also introduced to West Africa, South-East Asia and Indonesia.

Notes: Overseas this species is considered to be a valuable cover crop or green manure crop, and is also cut and used for forage. Nodulates.

References: 3, 16, 121, 141.

Clitoria ternatea

Butterfly pea, cordofan pea

Perennial twining vine with stems to 5m long from a woody rootstock. Stems sparsely covered with short adpressed hairs. Stipules 4-5mm long, narrowly triangular and tapering to a point, adpressed, persistent. Leaves pinnate, with 5-9 leaflets. Petiole 15-30mm long, rachis 20-40mm long, both minutely hairy. Stipels 1-2mm long, present at base of all leaflets. Leaflets 20-50mm long, 10-30mm wide, broadest about the mid-point, curving to the base, broadly rounded and often minutely indented at the tip, sparsely



Clitoria ternatea, Hervey Bay, Cult. ornamental.

covered with short adpressed hairs on both surfaces.

Flowers showy, usually single and inverted in leaf axils, the peduncle and pedicel together 10-15mm long, a pair of c. 3mm bracts at the base of the pedicel, a pair of broad 4-17mm long bracteoles at the base of the calyx. Calyx c. 17-20mm long, the sepals all joined for $\frac{2}{3}$ their length, hairless except for a few hairs along the prominent nerves and tooth margins, ending in a

prominent point. Standard blue, pale yellow at the base, or white, 30-50mm long from base of calyx, c. 25mm wide, indented at the tip, very finely hairy on the back. Wings c. 30mm long from base of calyx, blue or white, lightly joined to the c. 20mm white keel.

Pod 50-110mm long, 8-11mm wide, flattened, sparsely and minutely hairy when immature, sandy-brown when ripe, containing 8-10 seeds. Seeds 3-8mm long, 3-5mm wide, plump, oval, brown to black, with a conspicuous white attachment to the pod, minutely pitted.

Distribution: Bk., Bur., Co., Lei., N.K., P.C., S.K. Also N.T., W.A. Locally common in moister northern situations, sometimes on alkaline soils. This species is now pan-tropical.

Notes: Palatable and nutritious to stock. A potentially useful plant on tropical clay soils; sensitive to frost. Pods are sometimes eaten by humans in the Philippines. The root is an effective purgative. Nodulates, self-pollinating.

References: 3, 16, 31, 46, 50, 112, 121, 141, 151, 155, 287, 309.

Crotalaria

Herbs or low or tall shrubs. Leaves simple or with 1 leaflet or digitate with 3, rarely 5-7 leaflets, lacking stipels. Flowers often showy, usually largely yellow, rarely blue or green. Stamens 10, the filaments all joined in a dorsally split tube, 5 longer anthers alternating with 5 much shorter anthers. Style bearded on the upper side. Pods often inflated, usually many-seeded.

Key to species

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|---|------------------------|
| 1. Leaflets 5-7 | 2 |
| Leaflets 1 (the petiole jointed) or 3, or leaves simple | 3 |
| 2. Leaflets broadest about the mid-point (northern distribution) | <i>C. quinquefolia</i> |
| Leaflets broadest well above the mid-point (south-eastern distribution) | <i>C. grahamiana</i> |
| 3. Flowers blue | 4 |
| Flowers yellow, often marked with red, or flowers green | 5 |
| 4. Leaves 25-110mm wide | <i>C. verrucosa</i> |
| Leaves less than 10mm wide | <i>C. sessiliflora</i> |
| 5. Leaves with 3 leaflets | 6 |
| Leaves with 1 leaflet or simple | 20 |
| 6. Lateral leaflets less than $\frac{1}{2}$ (usually less than $\frac{1}{3}$) length of terminal leaflet | <i>C. eremaea</i> |
| Lateral leaflets more than $\frac{1}{2}$ (usually more than $\frac{2}{3}$) length of terminal leaflet | 7 |
| 7. Pods less than 8mm long, containing 1-2 seeds | 8 |
| Pods more than 10mm long usually containing numerous seeds | 9 |
| 8. Plants silver-grey or dull green | <i>C. aridicola</i> |
| Plants green | <i>C. medicaginea</i> |
| 9. Flowers yellow, not marked with red; perennials with stems to 0.3m tall, growing on clay soils | <i>C. dissitiflora</i> |
| Flowers yellow, variously marked with red, or yellow-green (rarely all yellow in <i>C. incana</i>) | 10 |