

c. 10-30mm long including the short peduncle. Flowers borne singly within the axils of c. 3mm deciduous bracts, each on a 3-10mm pedicel. Sepals 5, 7-11mm long, dissimilar in size, sparsely hairy or hairless. Petals 4 or 5, yellow, 8-13mm long. Stamens 2, one anther c. 7mm long, the other 4-5mm long.

Pod 20-30mm long, 9-15mm wide, flat, covered with spreading hairs, containing 3-4 seeds.

Distribution: Co., N.K. Also N.T. Occurs on sandy soils in near-coastal eucalypt woodlands.

Notes: Of no grazing significance; unlikely to be palatable.

References: 270, 276, 277, 332, 333.

Labichea rupestris

Low shrub to 1.5m tall. Young stems covered with short more or less adpressed hairs. Stipules narrow, 1-2.5mm long, deciduous. Leaves digitate, with 3-5 leaflets, lacking a petiole. Central leaflet 25-90mm long, including the 2-3mm terminal spine, 3-7mm wide, the lateral leaflets less than $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the terminal leaflet, broadest at or above the mid-point, the margins tapering to the base, the tip broadly angled below the terminal spine, the upper surface dark green with numerous minute bulbous-based hairs, the lower surface lighter, with scattered adpressed hairs.

Inflorescence a 3-18 flowered axillary raceme

Lablab

Robust twining plant with large pinnate leaves with three leaflets. Stipels present. Flowers large, purple or white. Stamens 10, 9 filaments joined, 1 free. Style laterally flattened, hairy along the inner face. Pod 12-40mm wide, containing 2-5 seeds.

Lablab purpureus

Lablab bean

Annual or short-lived perennial with thick trailing or twining stems to several metres long. Stems hairless or covered with spreading hairs. Stipules 4-6mm long, triangular, spreading, more or less persistent. Petiole 20-110mm long, rachis 8-35mm long. Stipels 3-4mm long. Leaflets dark green, 25-150mm long, 15-140mm wide, broadest towards the very broadly angled base, the margins more or less curving towards the tip



Labichea rupestris, Burra Range, 20°44'S, 145°12'E.

20-30mm long, including the short peduncle. Flowers borne singly within the axils of c. 1mm deciduous bracts, each on a 2-4mm pedicel. Sepals 4, rarely 5, 4-7mm long, dissimilar in size, more or less densely hairy. Petals 4, rarely 5, yellow, 3-6mm long. Anthers 2, the stamens similar in size, 2.5-4.5mm long.

Pod 20-28mm long, 10-14mm wide, flat, more or less hairy, light brown when ripe, containing 1 or 2 seeds. Seeds 5-6mm long, 3.5-4mm wide, red-brown and shiny but with a prominent yellow aril.

Distribution: Bk., Lei., Mi., N.K., Wa. Occurs on infertile sandy soils in eucalypt woodlands.

Notes: Of no agricultural significance.

References: 17, 270, 332.

which is extended into a short point, covered with short soft hairs on both surfaces, especially along the veins, prominently ridged along the veins on the undersurface.

Inflorescence a terminal or axillary raceme 200-400mm long, including the long peduncle. Flowers borne in clusters of 2-6 within the axils of broad c. 6mm deciduous bracts, each flower cluster borne on a prominent swelling, each flower with a 1-4mm pedicel which bears a pair of broad bracteoles at the tip. Calyx 5-8mm long, densely covered with soft hairs, the two dorsal



Lablab purpureus, Gatton, 27°33'S, 152°20'E, Cult. crop.

sepals joined almost to the tip, the sepals otherwise joined for c. $\frac{2}{3}$ their length. Standard white or bluish purple, c. 14mm tall, 20mm wide. Wings white or bluish purple, c. 18mm long from base of calyx, longer than the keel which is minutely hairy along the margins.

Pod 35-140mm long, usually 12-20mm wide,

flattened, hairless or minutely hairy, usually almost straight along the upper margin, strongly curved along the lower margin, brown when ripe, containing 2-5 seeds. Seeds c. 9-11mm long, 6-7mm wide, oval, plump, with a prominent white or pink hilum, c. 9mm long.

Distribution: Bur., D.D., Mo., W.B. Also W.A., N.S.W. Originally from tropical Africa to tropical Asia, sometimes naturalized in south-east Qld and northern N.S.W.

Notes: A useful forage crop usually grown as an annual. Also grown as a vegetable crop (poor man's bean, Tonga bean). Forage cultivars are the white-flowered Rongai with light reddish brown seeds, released in 1962, and Highworth with purple flowers and black seeds, released in 1973. Nodulates, self-pollinating.

References: 3, 26, 46, 88, 112, 121, 141, 210, 287, 305, 306, 329; as *Dolichos lablab*, 16, 17, 22, 50, 136, 209.

Lamprolobium

Erect shrub, the leaves pinnate with a terminal leaflet or with a single leaflet in upper leaves, lacking stipels. Flowers small, yellow. Stamens 10, the filaments all united in a dorsally split tube. Style hairless. Pods very flattened, many-seeded. A genus endemic to northern Australia.

Lamprolobium fruticosum

Erect very sparsely stemmed shrub to 2m tall. Young stems densely covered with rust-coloured hairs, velvety to the touch. Stipules c. 1mm long, inconspicuous, persistent. Leaves pinnate, with 3-7 leaflets, usually reduced to 1 on upper branches. Petiole 10-30mm long, rachis 5-40mm



Lamprolobium fruticosum, Chillagoe, 16°46'S, 144°10'E.

long. Leaflets thick, dull green, 25-70mm long, 12-30mm wide, the laterals much shorter than the terminal, broadest at or below the mid-point, slightly tapering to the broadly rounded, more rarely narrowly pointed, mucronate tip, the base broadly angled, densely covered with adpressed hairs on both surfaces, the hairs on the lower surface rust-coloured along the veins.

Flowers borne in clusters of 1-4 in upper leaf axils, each on a 4-10mm pedicel, the bracteoles 2-3mm long, deciduous. Calyx 6-9mm long, densely covered with rust-coloured hairs, the two dorsal sepals joined for $\frac{3}{4}$ their length and hooded over the standard, the sepals otherwise joined for c. $\frac{1}{4}$ their length. Standard pale yellow, c. 5mm tall, 5mm wide. Wings pale yellow, c. 7mm long from base of calyx, the same length as the greenish yellow keel.

Pod 35-45mm long, including the c. 7mm stalk above the calyx, c. 10mm wide, strongly flattened, hairless, shiny, light brown when ripe, containing 5-8 seeds. Seeds c. 6mm long, 4mm wide, with a prominent aril around the point of