

P. vulgaris (navy bean, french bean) is an important crop which may be distinguished by its 5-6mm long bracteoles, which exceed the calyx. It is not known to be naturalized but may

occasionally be found on rubbish tips and perhaps along roadsides.

References: 3, 16, 121, 136, 141, 287, 306.

Phylacium

Herbaceous twining perennial with pinnate leaves with three leaflets. Stipels present. Inflorescence largely enclosed within boat-shaped papery bracts. Stamens 10, 9 filaments joined in a dorsally split tube, the other loosely joined. Style hairless in the upper part. Pod single-seeded.

Phylacium bracteosum

Perennial, with slender, twining, herbaceous stems to 5m long. Young stems sparsely covered with downward-pointing hairs. Stipules narrow and pointed, c. 4mm long, adpressed, persistent. Petiole 20-60mm long, rachis 3-13mm long; stipels 0.5-1.5mm long. Leaflets thin, 20-100mm long, 12-45mm wide, broadest at about the mid-point, the margins curving to the rounded base and rounded, slightly indented tip, hairless on the upper surface and sparsely covered with adpressed hairs on the lower surface.

Inflorescence a cluster of 2-10 axillary 20-50mm racemes, each raceme partly enclosed by 1-3 boat-shaped, 20-46mm long, 20-42mm wide, papery bracts. Flowers borne on 4-5mm pedicels which bear a pair of c. 1mm bracteoles at the tip. Calyx 3-5mm long, finely hairy, the upper sepals joined to form a lip, the sepals otherwise joined for c. $\frac{3}{4}$ their length. Standard white, pale pink to pale bluish at the base, c. 5mm tall, 5mm wide, slightly indented at the tip. Wings c. 9mm long from base of calyx, longer than the purple-tipped keel.

Pod 7-10mm long, including the 2-3mm beak,



Phylacium bracteosum, Claudie River, 12°45'S, 143°15'E, Cult.

5-6mm wide, flattened, the upper margin straight, the lower curved, covered with minute hairs, indehiscent. Seed c. 5mm long, 3.5mm wide, kidney-shaped, flattened, purple-brown.

Distribution: Co. Also South-East Asia, Indonesia and P.N.G. Occurs in northern rainforest margins and regrowth.

Notes: Of no grazing significance.

References: 16, 306, 333.

Phyllodium

Erect shrubs with pinnate leaves with three leaflets. Stipels present. Flowers in clusters within the axils of leaf-like bracts consisting of a pair of small "leaflets". Stamens 10, 9 filaments joined in a dorsally split tube, 1 free. Style hairless. Pod consisting of 2-4 articles, breaking up at maturity.

Key to species

- Pods with 2 articles
- Pods with 3-4 articles

P. pulchellum
Phyllodium sp. Q1