

Medicinal Plant Images

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Figure 1. The genus *Acacia* (family Fabaceae) is a large genus of more than 1200 trees and shrubs which are widely distributed throughout the world, with more than 700 species indigenous to Australia. The Australian species had multiple medicinal uses by indigenous Australians, including being used to treat diarrhoea and hyperglycemia^[1] and as a general antiseptic agent.^[2,3] Many Australian *Acacia* species have been reported to have antimicrobial, molluscicidal, antihypertensive and platelet aggregatory activities.^[1] This photograph was taken at Griffith University, Australia by Dr Ian Cock.



Figure 2. *Terminalia ferdinandiana* (commonly known as Kakadu plum, gubinge, billy goat plum and salty plum) is an endemic Australian tree which occurs in tropical grassland regions of northern Australia. The fruit has traditional uses for indigenous Australians as food and as a medicinal plant.^[1,4] Recent studies have reported Kakadu plum to be extremely high in antioxidants and to be the richest naturally occurring source of vitamin C.^[5,6] As high antioxidant levels have previously been demonstrated to act as preventative effects against the development of degenerative chronic diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular diseases, neural degeneration, diabetes and obesity, it has been postulated that Kakadu plum fruit may also be an effective preventative against these diseases.^[4] Recent studies have shown Kakadu plum fruit extracts to be effective at inhibiting the growth of a panel of microbes.^[7] Photograph taken by David Bohme of Northern Territory Wild Harvest in 2011 and reproduced here with the photographers permission.

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