

# Arid Zone Trees



## Acacia xanthophloea *Fever-tree Acacia*

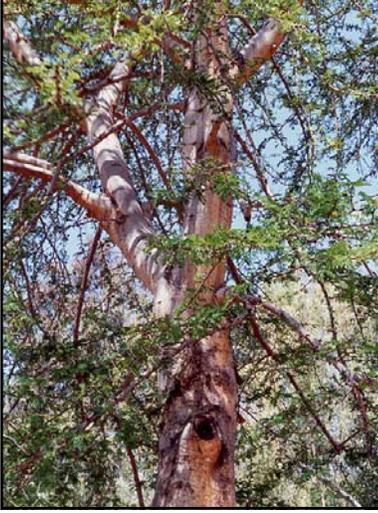


Photo courtesy of Richard Bond

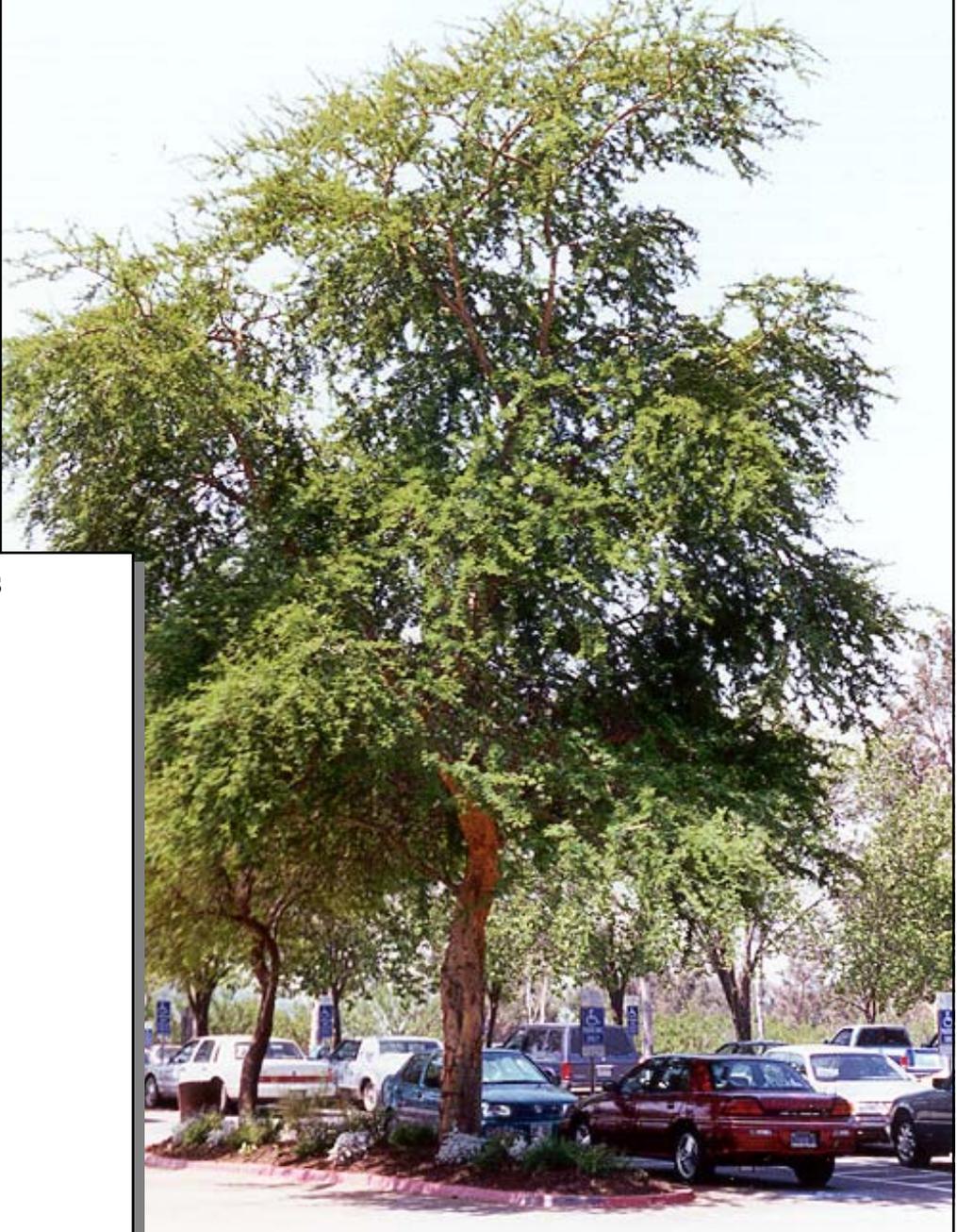


Photo courtesy of Richard Bond

### Horticultural Qualities *Acacia xanthophloea* *Fever-tree Acacia*

**Foliage:** Semi-Evergreen  
**Mature Height:** 30' - 45'  
**Mature Width:** 30' - 45'  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Hardiness:** 25 degrees F  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Leaf Color:** Green  
**Shade:** Filtered  
**Flower Color:** Yellow  
**Flower Shape:** Ball  
**Flower Season:** Spring  
**Thorns:** Yes  
**Box Sizes Produced:** 24"  
**Propagation Method:** Seed & Cuttings

[www.aridzonetrees.com](http://www.aridzonetrees.com)

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## Acacia xanthophloea

### *Fever-tree Acacia*

*Acacia xanthophloea* (*Fever-tree Acacia*) is a low elevation South African medium to tall tree growing along or in water. The beauty of this tree comes from the clusters of 10 yellow ball flowers. Pieces of the magnificent, smooth, greenish-yellow bark flake off as the tree matures, giving an interesting, colorful pattern to the trunk. This very fast growing tree is sensitive to cold below 25 degrees F. The common name comes from the misunderstanding of early settlers



who thought the tree was the carrier of the malaria fever. Because the tree grew in swamp areas conducive to malaria mosquito's, people associated the fever with the tree. The tree is armed with white straight spines up to two and a half inches long. For someone who is a tree collector and has the space and protection from temperatures below 25 degrees F. This is an addition you will want to plant.

### Cultural Practices

Foster the development of a more dispersed root system and reduce the risk of wind throw by arranging irrigation emitters at varying distances from the trunk to encourage roots to "seek out" water and nutrients. Irrigation emitter arrangement along with other information on irrigations practices for desert trees can be found at [www.aridzonetrees.com](http://www.aridzonetrees.com) and click on the FAQ link.

Prune as needed to reinforce the structure and form of the tree. Periodic thinning is the most desirable method of pruning. Avoid hedging or heading back desert species, as this will only stimulate excessive branching. Do not remove more than 30% of the canopy during the summer as this can lead to sunburn injuries that can later be invaded by wood boring insects. Always use clean, sharp tools that are cleaned regularly in a 10% solution of bleach. For detail pruning guide see [www.aridzonetrees.com](http://www.aridzonetrees.com) and click on the FAQ interactive button.

Periodically insect pests can be a problem on some desert trees. On young trees, insect infestation can slow typical seasonal growth. Inspect trees during the growing season for common garden sucking insects such as aphids, thrip, whiteflies or psyllids. During dry months, (May and June) in dusty conditions, spider mites can appear. Monitor for infestation and apply controls as needed. Spray applications of water or water and Safer Soap give short-term control (3 to 7 days) for small insect population. For heavy infestation or longer control use federally registered insecticides. A contact insecticide application will kill existing adults. An application with a systemic soil drench will provide 8 to 12 weeks control for any post application insect hatchings or migration of insects. Before using pesticide for the first time or on new plants or cultivar, treat a few plants and check for phytotoxicity. **Always read label and follow label instruction before using pesticides. For pesticide control recommendations contact a licensed pest control advisor.**

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