Taxon: Schotia brachypetala

Family: Fabaceae

Common Name(s): African walnut
elephant hedge bean tree
fuchsia tree
weeping boer-bean
weeping schotia

Synonym(s): Guillandinodes brachypetalum (Sond.) Kuntze
Schotia brachypetala var. pubescens Burtt Davy
Schotia rogersii Burtt Davy
Schotia semireducta Merxm.

Assessor: Chuck Chimera **Status:** Approved **End Date:** 20 Oct 2026

WRA Score: -1.0 **Designation:** L **Rating:** Low Risk

Keywords: Ornamental Tree; Not N-Fixing, Self-Incompatible, Bird-Pollinated, Bird-Dispersed

Qsn #	Question	Answer Option	Answer
101	Is the species highly domesticated?	y = -3, n = 0	n
102	Has the species become naturalized where grown?		
103	Does the species have weedy races?		
201	Species suited to tropical or subtropical climate(s) - If island is primarily wet habitat, then substitute "wet tropical" for "tropical or subtropical"	0 = low, 1 = intermediate, 2 = high (see Appendix 2)	High
202	Quality of climate match data	0 = low, 1 = intermediate, 2 = high (see Appendix 2)	High
203	Broad climate suitability (environmental versatility)	y = 1, n = 0	y
204	Native or naturalized in regions with tropical or subtropical climates	y = 1, n = 0	y
205	Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural range?	y= -2, ? = -1, n = 0	y
301	Naturalized beyond native range	y = 1*multiplier (see Appendix 2), n = question 205	y
302	Garden/amenity/disturbance weed	y = 1*multiplier (see Appendix 2), n = 0	n
303	Agricultural/forestry/horticultural weed	y = 2*multiplier (see Appendix 2), n = 0	n
304	Environmental weed		
305	Congeneric weed		
401	Produces spines, thorns or burrs	y = 1, n = 0	n
402	Allelopathic		
403	Parasitic	y = 1, n = 0	n
404	Unpalatable to grazing animals	y = 1, n = -1	n
405	Toxic to animals		
406	Host for recognized pests and pathogens	y = 1, n = 0	n
407	Causes allergies or is otherwise toxic to humans		
408	Creates a fire hazard in natural ecosystems	y = 1, n = 0	n

Qsn #	Question	Answer Option	Answer
409	Is a shade tolerant plant at some stage of its life cycle	y = 1, n = 0	y
410	Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions (or limestone conditions if not a volcanic island)	y = 1, n = 0	y
411	Climbing or smothering growth habit	y = 1, n = 0	n
412	Forms dense thickets	y = 1, n = 0	n
501	Aquatic	y = 5, n = 0	n
502	Grass	y = 1, n = 0	n
503	Nitrogen fixing woody plant	y = 1, n = 0	n
504	Geophyte (herbaceous with underground storage organs -- bulbs, corms, or tubers)	y = 1, n = 0	n
601	Evidence of substantial reproductive failure in native habitat	y = 1, n = 0	n
602	Produces viable seed	y = 1, n = -1	y
603	Hybridizes naturally		
604	Self-compatible or apomictic	y = 1, n = -1	n
605	Requires specialist pollinators	y = -1, n = 0	y
606	Reproduction by vegetative fragmentation	y = 1, n = -1	n
607	Minimum generative time (years)	1 year = 1, 2 or 3 years = 0, 4+ years = -1	>3
701	Propagules likely to be dispersed unintentionally (plants growing in heavily trafficked areas)	y = 1, n = -1	n
702	Propagules dispersed intentionally by people	y = 1, n = -1	y
703	Propagules likely to disperse as a produce contaminant	y = 1, n = -1	n
704	Propagules adapted to wind dispersal	y = 1, n = -1	n
705	Propagules water dispersed		
706	Propagules bird dispersed	y = 1, n = -1	y
707	Propagules dispersed by other animals (externally)	y = 1, n = -1	n
708	Propagules survive passage through the gut		
801	Prolific seed production (>1000/m2)	y = 1, n = -1	n
802	Evidence that a persistent propagule bank is formed (>1 yr)		
803	Well controlled by herbicides		
804	Tolerates, or benefits from, mutilation, cultivation, or fire		
805	Effective natural enemies present locally (e.g. introduced biocontrol agents)		

Supporting Data:

Qsn #	Question	Answer
101	Is the species highly domesticated?	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	[No evidence of domestication] "Schotia brachypetala occurs in woodland and thickets up to 1350 m altitude. It is often found on termite mounds and on river banks. The tree is drought resistant and slightly frost tolerant."

102	Has the species become naturalized where grown?	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	NA

103	Does the species have weedy races?	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	NA

201	Species suited to tropical or subtropical climate(s) - If island is primarily wet habitat, then substitute "wet tropical" for "tropical or subtropical"	High
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Origin and geographic distribution Schotia brachypetala occurs in eastern Botswana, Zimbabwe, southern Mozambique, eastern South Africa and Swaziland."
	POWO (2026). Plants of the World Online. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; https://powo.science.kew.org/. [Accessed 26 Aug 2026]	"The native range of this species is S. Tropical & S. Africa. It is a tree and grows primarily in the seasonally dry tropical biome. "

202	Quality of climate match data	High
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Origin and geographic distribution Schotia brachypetala occurs in eastern Botswana, Zimbabwe, southern Mozambique, eastern South Africa and Swaziland." ... "Schotia brachypetala occurs in woodland and thickets up to 1350 m altitude. It is often found on termite mounds and on river banks. The tree is drought resistant and slightly frost tolerant."

203	Broad climate suitability (environmental versatility)	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Mbambezeli, G. & Notten, A. (2014). Schotia brachypetala Sond. PlantZAfrica. SANBI. https://pza.sanbi.org/schotia-brachypetala. [Accessed 27 Aug 2026]	"Horticultural zones Zone 1 Coastal summer rainfall, frost free Zone 2 Coastal winter rainfall, frost free Zone 3 Winter rainfall Karoo, light frost Zone 4 Summer rainfall Karoo and Highveld, Frost in winter Zone 5 Bushveld summer rainfall, Light frost"
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Schotia brachypetala occurs in woodland and thickets up to 1350 m altitude. It is often found on termite mounds and on river banks." [Elevation range >1000 m]

Qsn #	Question	Answer
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	Schotia brachypetala has broad climate suitability. It is native to subtropical and tropical southern Africa and can grow across a relatively wide range of warm climates, from seasonally dry areas to more humid subtropical environments. It tolerates some drought once established but performs best where adequate moisture is available.

204	Native or naturalized in regions with tropical or subtropical climates	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Origin and geographic distribution Schotia brachypetala occurs in eastern Botswana, Zimbabwe, southern Mozambique, eastern South Africa and Swaziland"
	POWO (2026). Plants of the World Online. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; https://powo.science.kew.org/. [Accessed 27 Aug 2026]	"The native range of this species is S. Tropical & S. Africa. It is a tree and grows primarily in the seasonally dry tropical biome."

205	Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural range?	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	POWO (2026). Plants of the World Online. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; https://powo.science.kew.org/. [Accessed 28 Aug 2026]	"Introduced into: Kenya, Pakistan, Queensland, Uganda "
	Staples, G.W. & Herbst, D.R. (2005). A Tropical Garden Flora - Plants Cultivated in the Hawaiian Islands and Other Tropical Places. Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu, HI	"J. F. Rock introduced S. brachypetala from southern California before 1920 and planted it on the grounds of the College (now University) of Hawai‘i campus in Mānoa."

301	Naturalized beyond native range	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Kodela, P.G. (2026). Schotia brachypetala, in (ed.), Flora of Australia. Australian Biological Resources Study, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water: Canberra. https://profiles.ala.org.au/opus/foa/profile/Schotia%20brachypetala [Date Accessed: 29 August 2026]. [Accessed 28 Aug 2026]	"Biostatus Naturalised. Distribution Native to southern Africa; introduced into cultivation in Australia where it has become occasionally naturalised in eastern Queensland." ... "In Australia, there are naturalised records from eucalypt open forest, dry rainforest, roadsides, and vacant land near a railway line."

302	Garden/amenity/disturbance weed	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	"Schotia brachypetala Sond. Fabaceae - Caesalpiniaceae Total N° of Refs: 6 Habit: Tree Preferred Climate/s: Dryland, Mediterranean, Subtropical, Tropical Origin: Africa, C Asia Major Pathway/s: Crop, Herbal, Ornamental Dispersed by: Humans References: Australia-N-354, Portugal-N-1006, Europe-N-819, Bermuda-N-1267, Australia-W-1977, India-W-1977." [Cited as a weed, but references provided do not include any details or impacts]

Qsn #	Question	Answer
303	Agricultural/forestry/horticultural weed	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	No evidence

304	Environmental weed	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WildNet. (2026). Taxon - Schotia brachypetala (kaffir bean). https://wildnet.science-data.qld.gov.au/taxon-detail?taxon_id=12857. [Accessed 12 Oct 2026]	"Problem Environmental Weed" [Possibly. Included in database with no details on impacts provided]

305	Congeneric weed	
	Source(s)	Notes
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	Schotia afra listed as "Q - Quarantine Weed Species prohibited entry under a countries quarantine laws, either because it' s not present or present and under a managerment program". [No evidence of impacts were found]

401	Produces spines, thorns or burrs	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	[No evidence] "Evergreen or briefly deciduous, small tree up to 15 m tall; bole up to 60 cm in diameter; bark surface smooth with hoop marks and t eddish brown in young trees, becoming rough and greyish brown to reddish brown in older trees; crown rounded, with spreading branches; twigs short-hairy when young. Leaves alternate, paripinnately compound with (3-)4-6(- 7) pairs of leaflets; stipules narrowly triangular, c. 5 mm long, caducous; petiole 1-2 cm Jong, rachis 3.5-17.5 cm long, grooved; leaflets opposite, elliptical to rhombic-ovate, 2-6.5 cm x 1-3 cm, cuneate to rounded and often asymmetrical at base, rounded to slightly notched at apex, margin entire to slightly wavy, sparsely hairy or glabrous, pinnately veined. Inflorescence a congested panicle up to 13 cm long, usually on older branches."

402	Allelopathic	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	Unknown. No evidence found

403	Parasitic	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Evergreen or briefly deciduous, small tree up to 15 m tall" [Fabaceae. No evidence]

404	Unpalatable to grazing animals	n
	Source(s)	Notes

Qsn #	Question	Answer
	Mbambezeli, G. & Notten, A. (2014). Schotia brachypetala Sond. PlantZAfrica. SANBI. https://pza.sanbi.org/schotia-brachypetala. [Accessed 15 Oct 2026]	"Starlings, monkeys and baboons eat the flowers, monkeys eat the seeds, birds eat the aril on the seeds and the leaves are browsed by game and black rhino also eat the bark. The latter visitors of course are only expected in game reserves."
	Van Wyk, B. & Van Wyk, P. (1997). Field Guide to Trees of Southern Africa. Struik Publishers, Cape Town, South Africa	"The leaves are browsed by game. Flowers produce abundant nectar which attracts several species of birds, particularly sunbirds."

405	Toxic to animals	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Schmidt, E., Lötter, M. & McCleland, W. (2002). Trees and shrubs of Mpumalanga and Kruger National Park. Jacana Media, Johannesburg, South Africa	"Important browse tree for game." [No mention of toxicity]
	Mangrove Mountain Computer Club. (2008). Australian Weeds and Livestock. https://www.weeds.mangrovemountain.net/index.html. [Accessed 16 Oct 2026]	"Toxicity to Other Species: Cattle, probably other livestock. Poisonous Principle: Unknown. Effects: Signs and Symptoms: . Loss of weight, . Crusty nasal exudate, . Pale mucous membranes, . Tarry faeces. . At autopsy, dehydration, haemorrhages through the alimentary tract, swollen liver, congested lungs."
	Van Wyk, B. & Van Wyk, P. (1997). Field Guide to Trees of Southern Africa. Struik Publishers, Cape Town, South Africa	[No evidence] "The leaves are browsed by game. Flowers produce abundant nectar which attracts several species of birds, particularly sunbirds."
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	Possibly yes. A species-specific fact sheet for Schotia brachypetala reports potential livestock health problems, including weight loss, nasal discharge, pale mucous membranes, and dark, tarry feces. The toxic principle is unknown, and the information appears to be based on unpublished veterinary observations rather than a published controlled study. Other sources discuss the uses of the plant as a browse tree with no mention of toxicity.

406	Host for recognized pests and pathogens	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	EPPO. (2026). Schotia brachypetala (SHJBR). https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/SHJBR/pests. [Accessed 19 Oct 2026]	"Pests Euwallacea fornicatus sensu lato (XYLBFO) Host Euwallacea fornicatus sensu stricto (EUWAWH) Host Fusarium euwallaceae (FUSAEW) Host" [EPPO lists S. brachypetala as a host for the polyphagous shot-hole borer complex and its associated Fusarium, but only as a non-reproductive host.]

407	Causes allergies or is otherwise toxic to humans	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Quattrocchi, U. (2012). CRC World Dictionary of Medicinal and Poisonous Plants: Common Names, Scientific Names, Eponyms, Synonyms, and Etymology. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL	"Roots used for dysentery and diarrhea." [Used medicinally. No evidence of acute toxicity]

Qsn #	Question	Answer
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	[Wood dust may be allergenic] "The wood is used for furniture, flooring, wagon beams and carving. Roasted seeds are eaten. The flowers, which p1·oduce abundantly nectar, are sometimes chewed. Preparations of the bark, and sometimes of roots and leaves, are used in traditional medicine. Bark decoctions and infusions are taken as emetic, and to treat heartburn, hangovers, nervous conditions, mental health problems and fontanel depression in babies, and are applied to swellings. The bark and roots are used to treat diarrhoea, and bark is applied in mixtures as a tonic. Pulverized leaves are used as a dressing to treat ulcers, and the smoke of burnt leaves is inhaled against nose bleeding. The bark has been used for tanning and dyeing reddish brown." ... "It has been reported that wood dust may cause allergic reactions to the eyes."

408	Creates a fire hazard in natural ecosystems	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Schotia brachypetala occurs in woodland and thickets up to 1350 m altitude. It is often found on termite mounds and on river banks. The tree is drought resistant and slightly frost tolerant." [No evidence that it increases fuel loads, promotes fire spread, or otherwise increases fire risk in natural ecosystems.]

409	Is a shade tolerant plant at some stage of its life cycle	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Vadigi, S., & Ward, D. (2013). Shade, nutrients, and grass competition are important for tree sapling establishment in a humid savanna. Ecosphere, 4(11), 1-27	"Shade.—Shade had mixed effects, with more negative than positive effects, on sapling growth. Very few positive effects were observed, with the exceptions of RGRL of Schotia brachypetala and LP of A. nigrescens, suggesting that these are shadetolerant species. Schotia brachypetala is known to frequently occur in riparian forests, where shade tolerance would be needed to thrive." ... "Shade.—Shade had mixed effects, with more negative than positive effects, on sapling growth. Very few positive effects were observed, with the exceptions of RGRL of Schotia brachypetala and LP of A. nigrescens, suggesting that these are shadetolerant species. Schotia brachypetala is known to frequently occur in riparian forests, where shade tolerance would be needed to thrive."
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	Research on tree sapling establishment in a humid African savanna found that Schotia brachypetala showed improved relative growth under shaded conditions, suggesting shade tolerance during its juvenile stage. The authors also note that the species frequently occurs in riparian forests, where shade tolerance may be advantageous. However, shade benefits to sapling growth do not necessarily indicate improved long-term survival under dense canopy cover.

410	Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions (or limestone conditions if not a volcanic island)	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Criley, R. A. (2021). Expanding tree diversity in Hawai'i's landscapes: Tree fuchsia, Schotia brachypetala (L-50). College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa	"Adapted to various soil types but requires good drainage"
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Schotia brachypetala usually grows slowly, but when planted on deep sandy soils it may grow quite rapidly" [Well-drained]

Qsn #	Question	Answer
411	Climbing or smothering growth habit	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Evergreen or briefly deciduous, small tree up to 15 m tall; bole up to 60 cm in diameter"

412	Forms dense thickets	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Schotia brachypetala occurs in woodland and thickets up to 1350 m altitude. It is often found on termite mounds and on river banks." [A component of thicket vegetation, but no evidence that it forms monotypic stands]

501	Aquatic	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	[Terrestrial] "Ecology Schotia brachypetala occurs in woodland and thickets up to 1350 m altitude. It is often found on termite mounds and on river banks. The tree is drought resistant and slightly frost tolerant."

502	Grass	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	POWO (2026). Plants of the World Online. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; https://powo.science.kew.org/. [Accessed 14 Oct 2026]	Fabaceae

503	Nitrogen fixing woody plant	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Allen, O. N., & Allen, E. K. (1936). Plants in the sub-family Caesalpinioideae observed to be lacking nodules. Soil Science, 42(2), 87-92	"Table 2. Tropical species of the sub-family Caesalpinioideae observed to be lacking nodules*" [15 Scholia brachypetala plants between 1-5 months of age were found lacking nodules, and therefore presumably do not fix nitrogen]

504	Geophyte (herbaceous with underground storage organs -- bulbs, corms, or tubers)	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Evergreen or briefly deciduous, small tree up to 15 m tall; bole up to 60 cm in diameter;"

601	Evidence of substantial reproductive failure in native habitat	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Genetic resources and breeding There are no indications that Schotia brachypetala is in risk of genetic erosion. However, the bark is locally popular and much collected, and this may have serious impact on local populations of the species."

Qsn #	Question	Answer
602	Produces viable seed	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Kiepiel, I., Brown, M., & Johnson, S. D. (2022). A generalized bird pollination system in Schotia brachypetala (Fabaceae). Plant Biology, 24(5), 806-814	"Bagged unmanipulated and self-pollinated flowers yielded negligible fruit set, while approximately 57% of cross-pollinated flowers set fruit (Fig. 2A). Control and self-pollination treatments failed to produce any viable seeds, while cross-pollinated flowers set large numbers of viable seeds, as well as some aborted seeds"
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Propagation can be done by using seeds or truncheon cuttings."
	Mbambezeli, G. & Notten, A. (2014). Schotia brachypetala Sond. PlantZAfrica. SANBI. https://pza.sanbi.org/schotia-brachypetala. [Accessed 12 Oct 2026]	"Propagation is by seed or truncheon cuttings. Schotia brachypetala grows easily from seed, which should be sown in spring to early summer, in a well-drained general-purpose potting soil, placed in a warm but shaded spot and kept moist. Soaking the seed overnight in warm (not hot) water is not necessary for germination to occur, but should hurry things along. Dusting the seed prior to sowing, or drenching after sowing, with a fungicide that combats pre-emergence damping off, although not essential, will increase the percentage germination. Truncheon cuttings can be taken in winter to early spring while the tree is not in active growth, and should placed in well-drained sandy soil in a cool shady spot and kept damp but not wet."

603	Hybridizes naturally	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Ramdhani, S., Cowling, R. M., & Barker, N. P. (2010). Phylogeography of Schotia (Fabaceae): recent evolutionary processes in an ancient thicket biome lineage. International journal of Plant Sciences, 171(6), 626-640	[Unknown. Hybridization documented in genus] "Codd (1956) and Ross (1977) recorded putative Schotia hybrids in areas of sympatry. Additionally, Ross (1977) recorded considerable variation within species. Molecular- based phylogenetics studies are increasingly showing that hybridization is an important phenomenon in angiosperm evolution (Vriesendorp and Bakker 2005; Barber et al. 2007; Watanabe et al. 2008; Ramdhani et al. 2009). Nucleotide ITS additivity is an indicator of different paternal and maternal copies originating from hybridization events (e.g., Carine et al. 2007). We examined a hybrid population from Seaview (Port Elizabeth; SR824) in greater detail to check for ITS ad- ditivity. Six ITS sequences were generated for individuals in this population (SR824A, -B, -D, -E, -G, and -H, all placed in clade 4 [fig. 3]). In this hybrid population, we found no ev- idence for ITS additivity."

604	Self-compatible or apomictic	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Kiepiel, I., Brown, M., & Johnson, S. D. (2022). A generalized bird pollination system in Schotia brachypetala (Fabaceae). Plant Biology, 24(5), 806-814	"Controlled hand-pollination experiments showed that S. brachypetala is genetically self-incompatible and therefore dependent on pollinators for seed production."

605	Requires specialist pollinators	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Kodela, P.G. (2026). Schotia brachypetala, in (ed.), Flora of Australia. Australian Biological Resources Study, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water: Canberra. https://profiles.ala.org.au/opus/foa/profile/Schotia%20brachypetala [Date Accessed: 29 August 2026]. [Accessed 28 Aug 2026]	"Ecology Abundant nectar (which often drips) from the red flowers attracts birds, insects and other animals. For example, Rainbow Lorikeets are a common visitor, and the common name Drunken Parrot Tree derives from parrots feeding on the fermented nectar."

Qsn #	Question	Answer
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Trees usually flower in September~October. Nectar is often so abundant that it drips from the flowers, which are visited by sunbirds, but also by insects such as bees, and by monkeys."
	Kiepiel, I., Brown, M., & Johnson, S. D. (2022). A generalized bird pollination system in Schotia brachypetala (Fabaceae). Plant Biology, 24(5), 806-814	[Bird-pollinated] "Controlled hand-pollination experiments showed that S. brachypetala is genetically self-incompatible and therefore dependent on pollinators for seed production. Supplemental hand-pollination experiments showed that natural fecundity is limited by either the amount and/or the quality of pollen on stigmas. Flowers from which birds but not insects were experimentally excluded set fewer seeds than open control flowers. Opportunistic birds deposited more pollen per visit than did specialist sunbirds. We conclude that S. brachypetala has a generalized bird pollination system that mainly involves opportunistic nectarivores."

606	Reproduction by vegetative fragmentation	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Propagation can be done by using seeds or truncheon cuttings. Young trees perform best when they have been planted in deep sandy soils with plenty of well-decomposed compost added."
	Mbambezeli, G. & Notten, A. (2014). Schotia brachypetala Sond. PlantZAfrica. SANBI. https://pza.sanbi.org/schotia-brachypetala. [Accessed 12 Oct 2026]	"Propagation is by seed or truncheon cuttings."

607	Minimum generative time (years)	>3
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Witkoppen Wildflower Nursery. (2026). Schotia brachypetala. https://witkoppenwildflower.co.za/schotia-brachypetala/. [Accessed 19 Oct 2026]	"Fairly slow growing, taking a few years to form a canopy and flowering after 6 or 7 years."
	TreeSA. (2026). Schotia brachypetala. https://treesa.org/schotia-brachypetala/. [Accessed 19 Oct 2026]	"The Tree flowers when it is about 5 years old."

701	Propagules likely to be dispersed unintentionally (plants growing in heavily trafficked areas)	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Fruit an oblong, flattened pod 6- 17 cm x 3.5-5 cm, thickened along upper suture, g]abrous, tardily dehiscent, several-seeded. Seeds broadly elliptical to rhombic, flattened, 1.5-2 cm x 1-1.5 cm, smooth, pale brown, with cup-shaped, yellow aril at base." [No evidence or means of external attachment]

Qsn #	Question	Answer
702	**Propagules dispersed intentionally by people**	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Staples, G.W. & Herbst, D.R. (2005). A Tropical Garden Flora - Plants Cultivated in the Hawaiian Islands and Other Tropical Places. Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu, HI	"J. F. Rock introduced S. brachypetala from southern California before 1920 and planted it on the grounds of the College (now University) of Hawai'i campus in Mānoa.1249 Rock remarked on its shapely, symmetrical crown, which reaches nearly to the ground, and its attractive crimson blooms."
	Criley, R. A. (2021). Expanding tree diversity in Hawai'i's landscapes: Tree fuchsia, Schotia brachypetala (L-50). College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa	"Recommended Use in Landscape • Shade tree • Park tree • Residences • Median strip • Large planters"

703	**Propagules likely to disperse as a produce contaminant**	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Fruit an oblong, flattened pod 6- 17 cm x 3.5-5 cm, thickened along upper suture, g]abrous, tardily dehiscent, several-seeded. Seeds broadly elliptical to rhombic, flattened, 1.5-2 cm x 1-1.5 cm, smooth, pale brown, with cup-shaped, yellow aril at base." [No evidence. Large fruit and seed size makes this unlikely]
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	"Major Pathway/s: Crop, Herbal, Ornamental Dispersed by: Humans"

704	**Propagules adapted to wind dispersal**	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Frost, W. (2024). The Ways and Wonders of South African Trees. South Africa: Penguin Random House South Africa	"The hard, flat pods usually contain 14 seeds. While the pods are still on the tree, the flat sides split open inside a ridge on the convex side of the pod to release the seeds. Parrots and grey go-away birds are mostly responsible for seed dispersal."

705	**Propagules water dispersed**	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Vadigi, S., & Ward, D. (2013). Shade, nutrients, and grass competition are important for tree sapling establishment in a humid savanna. Ecosphere, 4(11), 1-27	[Described as bird-dispersed, but presence in riparian areas suggests secondary dispersal by water may occur] "Schotia brachypetala is known to frequently occur in riparian forests, where shade tolerance would be needed to thrive."

706	**Propagules bird dispersed**	y
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Fruits ripen about 6 months after flowering. The seeds are probably mainly dispersed by birds attracted by the yellow arils."
	Frost, W. (2024). The Ways and Wonders of South African Trees. South Africa: Penguin Random House South Africa	"Giraffe, kudu, nyala and impala browse on the leaves, and black rhino may eat the bark. The hard, flat pods usually contain 14 seeds. While the pods are still on the tree, the flat sides split open inside a ridge on the convex side of the pod to release the seeds. Parrots and grey go-away birds are mostly responsible for seed dispersal."

707	**Propagules dispersed by other animals (externally)**	n

Qsn #	Question	Answer
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Frost, W. (2024). The Ways and Wonders of South African Trees. South Africa: Penguin Random House South Africa	"The hard, flat pods usually contain 14 seeds. While the pods are still on the tree, the flat sides split open inside a ridge on the convex side of the pod to release the seeds. Parrots and grey go-away birds are mostly responsible for seed dispersal."

708	Propagules survive passage through the gut	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Mbambezeli, G. & Notten, A. (2014). Schotia brachypetala Sond. PlantZAfrica. SANBI. https://pza.sanbi.org/schotia-brachypetala. [Accessed 20 Oct 2026]	"Starlings, monkeys and baboons eat the flowers, monkeys eat the seeds, birds eat the aril on the seeds and the leaves are browsed by game and black rhino also eat the bark. " [Unknown if seeds survive gut passage, or if birds only consume arils]

801	Prolific seed production (>1000/m2)	n
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Lemmens, R.H.M.J., Louppe, D. & Oteng-Amoako, A.A. (Eds.). (2012). Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 7(2). Timbers 2. PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, Netherlands	"Fruit an oblong, flattened pod 6- 17 cm x 3.5-5 cm, thickened along upper suture, g]abrous, tardily dehiscent, several-seeded. Seeds broadly elliptical to rhombic, flattened, 1.5-2 cm x 1-1.5 cm, smooth, pale brown, with cup-shaped, yellow aril at base." [No evidence, and unlikely given relatively large seeded pods]

802	Evidence that a persistent propagule bank is formed (>1 yr)	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	Weatherall-Thomas, C.R. (2009). Seed Dynamics and Seedling Survival in Mainland Thicket of the Eastern Cape. MSc. Thesis. Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa	[Possibly no. Hard seed coat does not require scarification to germinate] "It was expected that Schotia brachypetala would have enhanced germination when exposed to scarification or hot water, as it has a hard seed. However, this was not the case, with these treatments having no significant effect (Table 11). Germination of S. brachypetala seeds occurred quickly in all treatments. Not all hard seeds are impermeable to water (Baskin & Baskin 1998). It can therefore be assumed that S. brachypetala lacks seed coat-imposed dormancy, even though it has a hard seed. Germination greater than 90% was observed in S. afra without scarification (Todkill 2001). Rather, a hard seed coat may be a mechanism to protect against granivory (Sigwela 2004)."

803	Well controlled by herbicides	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	Unknown. No information on herbicide efficacy or chemical control of this species

804	Tolerates, or benefits from, mutilation, cultivation, or fire	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	Unknown

Qsn #	Question	Answer
805	**Effective natural enemies present locally (e.g. introduced biocontrol agents)**	
	Source(s)	**Notes**
	WRA Specialist. (2026). Personal Communication	Unknown

Summary of Risk Traits:

High-Risk / Potentially High-Risk Traits
Naturalized beyond native range – occasionally naturalized in eastern Queensland, Australia (eucalypt open forest, dry rainforest, roadsides, vacant land near railway).
Broad climate suitability – high climate match; suited to tropical/subtropical climates.
Wide soil tolerance – adapted to various well-drained soil types.
Shade tolerant at juvenile stage – noted in riparian forest habitats.
Produces viable seed – cross-pollinated flowers set viable seed.
Bird-dispersed – seeds have a yellow aril; parrots and grey go-away birds disperse seeds.
Possible environmental weed – listed as “Problem Environmental Weed” in WildNet, but no impact details provided.
Possible livestock toxicity – unpublished reports of weight loss, nasal discharge, pale mucous membranes, and tarry feces; toxic principle unknown.
Wood dust may cause allergic reactions – eye irritation reported.

Low-Risk Traits
No spines, thorns, or burrs; not parasitic; not climbing/smothering; does not form dense thickets.
Palatable to grazing animals – browsed by game and black rhino.
Not a fire hazard in natural ecosystems.
Not nitrogen-fixing – nodules absent in tested plants.
Self-incompatible and pollinator-dependent – limits reproductive output.
No reproduction by vegetative fragmentation.
Slow to maturity – >3 years; about 5–7 years to flowering.
Seeds not unintentionally dispersed; not a produce contaminant; not wind-dispersed; not externally animal-dispersed.
Not a prolific seeder (>1000/m²) and possibly no persistent seed bank.
No evidence of garden/amenity, agricultural/forestry/horticultural weed status.
No evidence of allelopathy; no recognized pests/pathogens