



Botanical Name: Phyllodium longipes, Phyllodium pulchellum
Common Name: Fish Scales, Dragon's Tongue
Family: Fabaceae
Origin: Primarily from Australia and southern Asia.

Phyllodium longipes is a woody leguminous shrub. The leaves are densely covered by velvety brown hairs. The terminal leaves are oblong (lanceolate) 13-20cm long often longer than lateral leaves and prominently veined. Each of its large spear like primary leaves is flanked at the base by two much smaller ones. It also grows long chains of round bracts that hide its flowers. The specific epithet:

- pulchellum means 'graceful' and references these chains.
- longipes, derives from the Latin words *longus* meaning "long" and *pes* meaning "foot" or "stalk".



The branchlets are densely brown-pubescent.

Flowers are inconspicuous white to pale yellow enclosed by a pair of greenish leaflike bracts. Flowers are produced in summer to early autumn.

The fruit is narrow and oblong 2 to 5 sectioned capsule. Seed dispersal is abiotic (explosive dehiscence). Fruits are produced in autumn.

Grow in Full sun to partial shade. Medium water requirement