



# *Suriana maritima*

Bois matelot

Family : Surianaceae

Sailor's Wood is a bushy shrub that looks like a "doormat" if exposed to strong winds but can grow up to 4 m high if sheltered.

It has many erect branches.

Its ash-green leaves give off an aroma like that of cedar when crushed.

Its yellow flowers are solitary and have 5 petals.

The fruits (drupes) have the property to resist a prolonged stay in sea water to allow their dispersion.



## Virtues

### Ecology

- Shoreline stabilizing plant
- Anti-erosion properties
- Windbreak
- Natural refuge for seabirds and striped trout



### Traditional uses

- Hardwood used in the making of puzzles
- In the Pacific, wood used to make hooks and assegais



### Pharmacopoeia

- Leaves sometimes used in decoction in some remedies



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