

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia acradenia F.Muell.



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B.R. Maslin



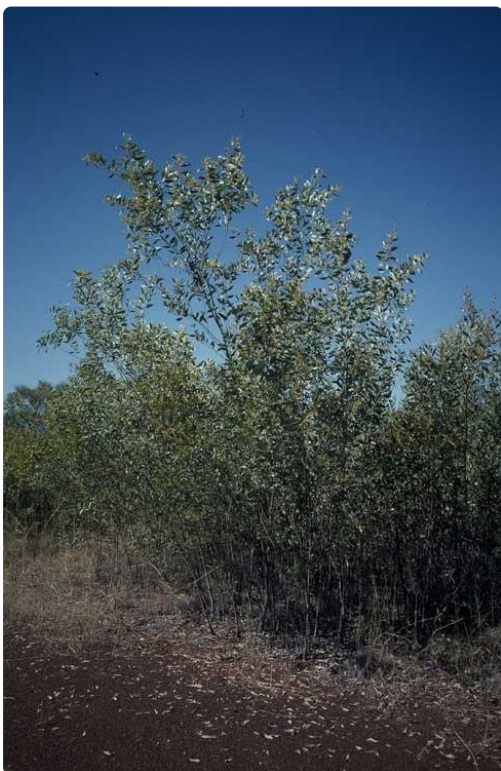
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Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.30912).
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Image courtesy of Northern Territory Herbarium



Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.22701).
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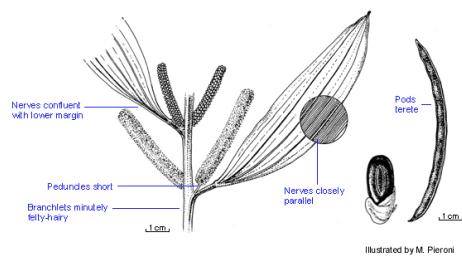


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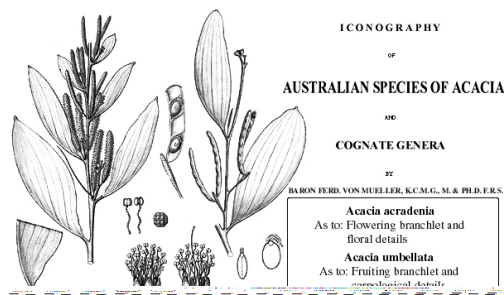


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Acacia acradenia



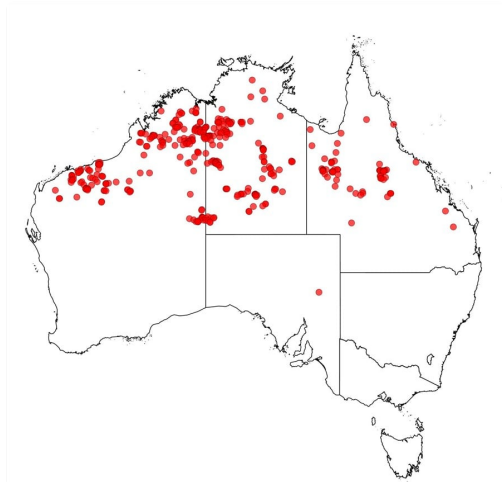
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Acacia acradenia occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Common in the arid country of northern Australia from the Fortescue R. and Kimberley, W.A., across the N.T. eastwards to Prairie, Qld, as far as 25°S.

Description

Shrub 1–4 (–7.5) m tall, ±**obconic** and commonly spindly. Bark grey. **Branchlets** minutely **appressed puberulous**, the hairs often embedded in resin. Phyllodes mostly obliquely **elliptic** or narrowly **elliptic**, 4–12 (–16) cm long, 10–30 (–40) mm wide, **rigid, acute** to **obtuse**, minutely ±**velvety** with hairs not visible to unaided eye, pale bluish green or milky pale green, multistriate, with minor nerves numerous (7–9 per mm) and not **anastomosing**, with 3 or more prominent nerves **confluent** near base. Spikes 2–6 (–7) cm long, orange or golden; peduncles 1–3 mm long, densely **puberulous**. Flowers 5-merous, **resinous**; **calyx** 0.9–1.2 mm long, dissected for 1/5–1/2, **puberulous**; **corolla** 1.8–2.2 mm long, dissected for c. 1/2, **glabrous**; **ovary puberulous**. Pods narrowly **linear**, ±**compressed-terete**, not or scarcely constricted between the

seeds, 4–9 (–13) cm long, 2.5–3.5 (–4) mm wide, thinly **crustaceous**, **straight** to slightly **curved**, \pm **velvety** to almost **glabrous**, reddish brown and often **scurfy**. Seeds **longitudinal**, **narrowly oblong-** to **oblong-elliptic**, 3–6 mm long, dark brown; **pleurogram** with yellowish halo; **areole** \pm open, **depressed**, olive-brown.

Phenology

Flowers all year.

Habitat

Grows in skeletal sandy soils and red earths, on laterite, sandstone or calcrete, on rocky hillsides or in gorges, often along creeks with eucalypts and spinifex. A relatively short-lived species that is killed by hot summer fires; it regenerates from seed and may form localized colonies in areas following disturbance.

Specimens

W.A.: 8 miles [12.8 km] SW of Lamboo Stn, E Kimberley, *M.Lazarides 6303* (CANB, NSW); 'Palm Springs', 11 km W of Millstream Stn, *A.N.Rodd 2814* (NSW, TL). N.T.: Vaughan Springs, *G.Chippendale 880* (DNA, NSW). Qld: 20 miles [32 km] SW of Cloncurry, *M.Lazarides 4408* (CANB, NSW).

Notes

Details of Aboriginal use of *A. acradenia* are given by P.Latz, *Bushfires & Bushtucker* 85 (1995).

The plate labelled '*Acacia acradenia*' by F.J.H. von Mueller, *Iconogr. Austral. Acacia* dec. 10 [pl. 4] (1888), is a mixture of two species; figs 1–8 represent *A. acradenia* and 9–13 *A. umbellata*. These two species are frequently confused, although *A. acradenia* has longer corollas, longer pods, spikes (only rarely with a rudimentary shoot between them) borne in pairs in the phyllode axils, and appressed puberulous-pubescent branchlets, peduncles, rachises and part or most of phyllodes. A specimen from the McKinley Ra., S.A., (*viz.* 1876, *Sutherland*, NSW), which is much further south than all other records, suggests a possible outlier population or doubtful record that requires further investigation.

FOA Reference

Data derived from *Flora of Australia* Volumes 11A (2001), 11B (2001) and 12 (1998), products of ABRS, ©Commonwealth of Australia

Author

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S.J.Davies, C.Herscovitch, D.A.Keith and/or D.A.Morrison

This identification key and fact sheets are available as a mobile application:



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Energy



Department of
Biodiversity, Conservation
and Attractions

Western Australian Herbarium



**Australian
Biological
Resources
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URL: <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/wattle/>

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