

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia amblygona A.Cunn. ex Benth.



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

Common Name

Fan Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Extends from Temora, N.S.W., N to the Expedition Ra. and Peak Downs, Qld, also occurring just S of Ravensthorpe, W.A.

Description

Sprawling **shrub** to c. 1 m high, sometimes **prostrate**. **Branchlets** sparsely to densely **hirsutellous**, sometimes **glabrous**. **Stipules** **persistent** or **caducous**. **Phyllodes** **sessile**, **patent**, inequilateral, normally **lanceolate** to **lanceolate-elliptic** and **acuminate**, 4–20 mm long, 1.5–4 mm wide, l/w usually 2–5, **pungent**, **rigid**, **glabrous** to **hirsutellous**, with **midrib** situated towards lower margin, with 1–3 normally sparingly branched minor nerves subparallel to **midrib** on its **adaxial** side; **gland** 0.5–1.5 mm above base. **Inflorescences** 1-headed **rudimentary** racemes with **axes** c. 0.5 mm long; **peduncles** 5–13 mm long, **glabrous**; basal bracts **persistent**; heads **globular** to shortly **obloid**, 10–18-flowered, golden; bracteoles **subsessile**, **concave**, **obtusate**, brown. **Flowers** 5-**merous**; sepals 1/2–3/4-united. **Pods** strongly **arcuate** to openly **coiled** or twisted, to 7 cm long, 3–5 mm wide, firmly **chartaceous** to thinly **coriaceous**, **glabrous**. **Seeds** **longitudinal**, **±oblong**, c. 3 mm long; **aril** c. 1/2 length of seed.

Habitat

Grows in *Eucalyptus* forest or mallee communities, in stony skeletal soils, in undulating ridge country or on the footslopes of mountain ranges.

Specimens

W.A.: 12 km SW of Ravensthorpe, *K.Newbey 9460* (MELU, PERTH). Qld: 24 km N of Munduberra, *I.B.Armitage 816* (BRI, NSW, PERTH); on Nathan Gorge road, 40 km from Cracow, *P.I.Forster 7200* (BRI, MEL, PERTH). N.S.W.: Wallaby Scrub Rd, 3 km E of Singleton–Windsor road, *B.R.Maslin 5932* (AD, MEXU, NSW, PERTH).

Notes

A member of the '*A. pravifolia* group' and sometimes confused with *A. pravifolia* itself, which has frequently obtriangular to obdelatate, shorter phyllodes, slightly shorter peduncles and glabrous or hirsutellous to shortly pilose, tightly coiled and irregularly twisted pods; it also is characterised by a longer, frequently denser branchlet indumentum. Also closely related to *A. lanceolata* from W.A. Phyllodes sometimes superficially similar to *A. hubbardiana*.

The inflorescence characters and phyllode venation of the W.A. specimens suggest their inclusion in *A. amblygona*, but pods are required to confirm this determination. Their phyllode shape and prominently raised midrib which is close to the lower margin resembles some forms of *A. gunnii* which differs in having cream to pale yellow, 20–30-flowered heads (and straight pods enclosing mottled, exarillate seeds). A variant from Chinchilla, Qld, recognised by its sparsely hairy branchlets (hairs minute, c. 0.1 mm long) is noted by L.Pedley, *Austrobaileya* 1: 225 (1978). A registered prostrate cultivar called "Winter Gold" is recognized for this species, *vide* M.Hitchcock, *Australian Plants* 22: 324 (2004); these plants have phyllodes which are usually more elongate than normal (l:w to 14).

FOA Reference

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

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



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Australian
Biological
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Study



URL: <https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/wattle>
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