

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia anastomosa Maslin, M.D.Barrett & R.L.Barrett



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

Common Name

Carson River Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in the Kimberley region of northern W.A. where it is known only from S of Kalumburu.

Description

Spindly, predominantly **glabrous** shrub 1–2 m tall. Bark smooth, brown. **Branchlets** angled at extremities but soon **terete**, dark red aging greyish, not **pruinose**. Phyllodes narrowly **elliptic** or sometimes **obovate**, mostly **dimidiate** with lower margin **straight** or shallowly **convex** and upper margin clearly **convex**, mostly 5–9 cm long and 15–25 mm with l: w = 2.5–4.5, with 2–4 main **longitudinal** nerves (plus a few imperfect and/or less discrete ones) of which some or all are **confluent** with lower margin at base, minor nerves forming an open net-like **reticulum** comprising \pm irregularly square to **oblong nerve-islands** c. 1–3 mm long; **gland** 0–2 mm above **pulvinus**. Inflorescences **simple**; peduncles 8–17 mm long; spikes 10–17 mm long and rather densely flowered. Flowers 5-**merous**; **calyx** c. 1/3 length of **corolla**, shortly dissected into **triangular** to broadly **triangular** lobes. Pods **narrowly oblong** to **narrowly oblong-oblongeolate**, narrowed towards the base, 5–10 cm long, 7–10 mm wide, **crustaceous** to \pm **sub-woody**, **straight**, opening elastically from apex with the dehisced valves strongly **recurved** (often forming a \pm open coil), marginal **nerve** thick. Seeds (immature) **oblique**, seated in shallow but distinct chambers each separated by a narrow septum.

Phenology

Difficult to accurately assess phenology because of paucity of collections but flowers collected from Apr.–June; mature seed not seen.

Habitat

Grows on red volcanic soil in open woodland with *Eucalyptus tectifica*, *Corymbia greeniana* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* over *Gossypium exiguum*, *Chrysopogon fallax* and *C. latifolius*.

Specimens

W.A.: [localities withheld for conservation reasons] *J.R.Maconochie 1245* (DNA, PERTH); *M. McDonald MM 1890* (PERTH).

Notes

Seemingly most closely related to *A. limbata* which is distinguished by its normally longer peduncles (mostly 20–40 mm), wider pods (mostly 10–15 mm) and by its phyllodes which are commonly continuous with the branchlets along their lower margin (never continuous in *A. anastomosa*) and which possess fewer anastomosing nerves that form clearly elongated nerve-islands about 5–12 mm long. *Acacia anastomosa* has a superficial resemblance to *A. synantha* but the relationship is probably not especially close.

Conservation

Classified as Priority One under Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora.

FOA Reference

Flora of Australia Project

Author

B.R.Maslin

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
Study



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