

# WATTLE

## Acacias of Australia

### *Acacia anceps* DC.



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Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
B.R. Maslin



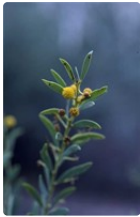
Source: Australian Plant Image Index (dig.5745).  
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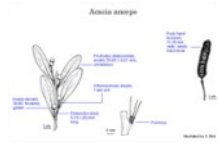
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Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.30928).  
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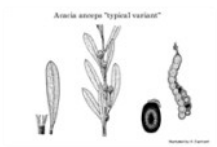
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Acacia anceps occurrence map.  
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living  
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Occurs principally in coastal areas from Middle Is., Recherche Archipelago, W.A., to the southern parts of the Eyre and Yorke Peninsulas as far as Sturt Bay, S.A.

### Description

Bushy spreading **shrub** to c. 3 m high. **Branchlets** angled at extremities, **glabrous**. Phyllodes sometimes **continuous** with **branchlets**, normally **elliptic to oblanceolate**, mostly 2.5–6.5 cm long and 8–30 mm wide, **obtuse**, sometimes **retuse, coriaceous, glaucous**, sometimes pale green, **glabrous**; **midrib** and marginal nerves prominent; **lateral nerves** often obscure; **pulvinus** distinct or poorly developed. Inflorescences **simple**, 1 per **axil**, initiated synchronously with phyllodes on new shoots; peduncles (6–) 10–26 mm long, stout, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, densely 50–130-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals united. Pods **narrowly oblong, straight-edged** or slightly constricted between seeds, normally to 6 cm long, 10–15 mm wide, firmly **crustaceous to woody, pruinose** at least when young, **glabrous**. Seeds (few seen) transverse, **oblong to elliptic**, 4.5–6 mm long,  $\pm$ dull, variable in colour, c. 1/2 encircled by red-brown **funicle**.

### Habitat

Grows in calcareous sand and shallow red-brown sand, in coastal dune vegetation or open scrub.

### Specimens

W.A.: Middle Is., *A.S.Weston 8932* (PERTH); Eucla, 1882, *J.Oliver* (MEL). S.A.: Port Lincoln, *J.B.Cleland* (AD96705036); Yalata Swamp, *A.E.Orchard 3205* (AD, PERTH); Ceduna, near Cape Thevenard, *B.R.Maslin 4817* (PERTH); Sturt Bay, *D.J.E.Whibley 5531* (AD).

### Notes

Seed colour, ranging as it does from uniformly black to dark brown mottled yellow, is unusual and requires further investigation. On some plants from W.A. the peduncles are only c. 6 mm long.

Much of the variation within this species is accommodated by two phyllode variants, as discussed by B.R.Maslin & D.J.E.Whibley, *Nuytsia* 6: 25 (1987). Intermediates between the two variants occur, particularly on parts of western Eyre Penin. in the Venus Bay and Streaky Bay areas. The types of both *A. anceps* and *A. anceps* var. *angustifolia* represent the widespread variant which is characterised by rather long (mostly 3.5–6.5 x 0.8–2.1 cm), oblanceolate, distinctly pulvinate phyllodes and flowers 38–80 per head. The second variant of *A. anceps* is now treated under *A. sp.* Winged (C.R.Alcock 4936).

A member of the '*Acacia microbotrya* group' allied to *A. alcockii*; it appears to hybridise with *A. leiophylla*, *A. nematophylla* (see *A. anceps*  $\times$  *nematophylla*) and *A. notabilis*, *vide* B.R.Maslin & D.J.E.Whibley, *Nuytsia* 6: 26 (1987).

### FOA Reference

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

### Author

Edited by 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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