

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia aphanoclada Maslin x *Acacia pyrifolia* DC. var. *pyrifolia*



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
B.R. Maslin



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See illustration.

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in the Pilbara region of north-western W.A. in a few, small, scattered populations near Nullagine.

Description

Wispy, spindly, single stemmed, **erect, glabrous shrub** 2–8 m high, crowns sparse, main stems c. 3 cm dbh. Bark smooth, grey except upper branches and the slender **branchlets pruinose**. **Stipules ±pungent**, absent from some nodes, 1–3 mm long. Phyllodes narrowly **elliptic** to **oblanceolate**, narrowed at apex into a slender, sharp point, mostly 5–11 cm long and 10–20 mm wide, l: w = 4–7, slightly **undulate**, grey-green, **pruinose**; **midrib prominent**, **lateral nerves openly anastomosing**. Inflorescences racemes or terminal panicles, the racemes 3–15 cm long; peduncles 8–12 mm long, solitary or paired at nodes along the **raceme axis**, pale-coloured; heads golden, densely 50–70-flowered. Flowers **5-merous**; sepals free, **linear**. Pods not seen.

Phenology

Flowers July–Sept.

Habitat

Grows low in the landscape, often along dry watercourses on low rocky hills, on agglomerative material in grey-red soil with stony surface.

Specimens

W.A.: 23.8 km N of Nullagine, 7.8 km E of Hales Grave Well, 4.1 km SE of Lionel Mining Centre, 20.3 km NW of Blue Speck Mining Centre, *S.vanLeeuwen* 5227 (K, MEL, PERTH); c. 25 km N of Nullagine, 9 km E of Nullagine–Marble Bar rd on track to Lionel Mining Centre, *B.R.Maslin* 8758 (PERTH).

Notes

Judging from morphological criteria it appears that this entity is a hybrid between *A. aphanoclada* and *A. pyrifolia* var. *pyrifolia*; it has been found sympatric with both putative parents in one population. In the Pilbara *A. pyrifolia* var. *pyrifolia* occasionally has a spindly, open growth form similar to that found in the putative hybrid but can be distinguished by its phyllode length:width ratio which does not exceed 2.

Possibly has some horticultural potential, *vide* B.R.Maslin *et al.*, *Wattles of the Pilbara* CD-ROM (2010).

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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