

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia applanata Maslin



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

Common Name

Grass Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Sporadic from near Jurien (c. 80 km due NW of Lancelin) S to Albany, south-western W.A.

Description

Grass-like subshrub 0.1–0.4 m high, **erect** or sometimes sprawling with weak, \pm **prostrate** stems, usually single- or few-stemmed from the base, sometimes spreading by subterranean runners. Stipules minute. Phyllodes few, **continuous** with **branchlets**, bifariouly **decurrent** and forming opposite wings with each one extending to the next below; wings usually 0.5–3 mm wide, **glabrous**, **pubescent**, **hirsute** or **scabridulous** and dark green; free portion of phyllodes usually 1.5–5 mm long, commonly spur-like, flat, **acute**, with **nerve** close to **adaxial** margin; **gland** absent. Inflorescences 1–4-headed racemes; **raceme axes** 0.5–10 mm long, slender; peduncles 5–12 mm long, slender, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, 10–20-flowered, golden; buds **obtus**e to subacute; bracteoles 0.5 x 0.2–0.4 mm. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals united almost to their apices, 1/4–1/3 length of petals; **calyx** tube 0.8–1.1 mm wide at apex. Pods **stipitate**, **curved**, flat, to 3 cm long, 7–10 mm wide, thinly **crustaceous**, normally densely **villous**. Seeds transverse, **oblong** to **elliptic**, 3.5–4 mm long, brown, arillate.

Habitat

Grows mostly in sand, loam and lateritic soils, often in winter wet depressions, usually in open woodland, woodland and forest, occasionally in shrubland.

Specimens

W.A.: Boonanning Brook near Gingin, *J.J.Alford 161* (PERTH); Albany, 14.5 km along Lower King Rd from Emu Point turn-off, *E.M.Bennett 1113* (PERTH); Bayswater, 10 July 1900, *A.Morrison* (PERTH); 0.6 km W of Bussell Hwy on Ruabon road, between Bunbury and Busselton, *B.R.Maslin 2812* (PERTH); 20 km N of Dandaragan on Badgingarra road, *B.R.Maslin 6559* (NSW, PERTH).

Notes

Until recently this species was included under *A. willdenowiana* which is distinguished by its grey-green to glaucous phyllodes, pale yellow to white flower-heads in long racemes which are commonly narrowly winged, and larger pods and seeds; these species are sometimes sympatric or parapatric. Related to *A. thieleana* and vegetatively resembling *A. anomala*. Appears to hybridise with *A. alata* var. *alata* in a few places in the Darling Ra. near Perth, *fide* B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* 10: 160 (1995).

Plants at the northern end of the range are more branched at base than plants elsewhere, and their phyllodes may reach 5–7 mm wide with free portions reaching 10 mm long.

FOA Reference

Author

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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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