

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia araneosa Whibley



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

Common Name

Spidery Wattle, Balcanoona Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Restricted from near Balcanoona to Arkaroola, North Flinders Ra., S.A.

Description

Wispy tree 3–8 m high. Branchlets slender, flexuose, red-brown, glabrous. Phyllodes distant, pendulous, thickly filiform, usually terete to subterete or ±quadrangular, 18–35 cm long, sometimes to 69 cm, usually 1–2 mm wide, delicately narrowed at apex, glabrous, sometimes scurfy, obscurely 4-nerved in all; pulvinus 2–4 mm long. Inflorescences racemose; raceme axes 3.5–9.5 cm long, glabrous; peduncles 7–10 mm long, glabrous; heads globular, 50–70-flowered, yellow; bracteoles peltate, golden-fimbriolate. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united almost to their apices. Pods linear, somewhat constricted between seeds, to 14.5 cm long, 4–6 mm wide, firmly chartaceous to thinly coriaceous-crustaceous, pruinose, glabrous. Seeds ±longitudinal, elliptic, c. 4.5 mm long, dull to slightly shiny, black; funicle 3/4 encircling seed in a single fold, red-brown; aril clavate.

Habitat

Grows in calcareous soil on hills and ridges associated with *Eucalyptus gillii* and/or *Triodia irritans*.

Specimens

S.A.: Nudlamutana Well, c. 15 km NNE of Balcanoona, D.J.E. Whibley 3888 (AD, PERTH).

Notes

A putative hybrid with *A. rivalis* occurs within the main population of *A. araneosa* near the type locality; it is characterised by flat phyllodes 1–3 mm wide (e.g. D.J.E. Whibley 2173, PERTH).

A member of the '*Acacia microbotrya* group' characterised by a distinctive cobwebby habit and very long, narrow phyllodes. These features are similar to those of *A. aphanoclada*, a W.A. member of the unrelated '*A. victoriae* group'.

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:



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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