

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia bartlei Maslin & J.E.Reid



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

Common Name

Bartle's Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Restricted to the Esperance area in south-western W.A. where it occurs in a few scattered localities from between Salmon Gums and Scaddan, extending E for c. 50 km to the vicinity of Kau Rock, Mt Ney, Mt Burdett and Wittenoom.

Description

Erect shrub or tree 1.5–7 (–10) m high, not fragrant. **Branchlets** resin-ribbed, hoary around **phyllode** bases. Phyllodes normally **narrowly oblong-elliptic to narrowly oblong-ob lanceolate**, **straight** to shallowly **recurved**, sometimes shallowly **incurved**, (2–) 2.5–6.5 (–7.5) cm long, (2–) 3–6 (–10) mm wide, **acute** or sometimes **obtuse**, **excentrically mucronate to sub-uncinate or uncinata**, mid- to dark-green, **glabrous**; with (2–) 3–8 (–9) **distant**, prominent nerves, anastomoses rare. Inflorescences (1–) 2–4 (–6)-headed racemes; **raceme axes** (1–) 2–8 mm long; peduncles (2–) 3–8 mm long, **appressed-puberulous**; heads **globular** or slightly **obloid**, 4–5 mm diam. (dry), densely c. 20-flowered, golden; buds **resinous**. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals free, 2/3–3/4 length of petals, **narrowly oblong**, narrowed towards base. Pods **linear, straight** to shallowly **curved**, 2–6.5 cm long, 2.5–3.5 mm wide, thinly **coriaceous, glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal, oblong**, 3.5–4.5 mm long, ±shiny, dark brown to ±black, **aril** yellow-brown or brown (dry).

Phenology

Flowers June–Oct.

Habitat

Grows in sandy loam or clay-loam in or near waterlogged depressions, often with Flat-topped Yate (*Eucalyptus occidentalis*).

Specimens

W.A.: 1.6 km E of Kau Rock, *T.E.H.Aplin 4058* (CANB, K, MEL, PERTH); Scaddan, *I.B.Armitage 534* (PERTH); Mt Ney Rd, 3 km S of Burdett Rd (NE of Esperance), *W.O'Sullivan WOS 1894* (PERTH).

Notes

A relatively long-lived species that seemingly regenerates from seed and is apparently resistant to locust attack; its heartwood is dark-coloured, hard and dense, see B.R.Maslin & M.W.McDonald, *AcaciaSearch: Evaluation of Acacia as a woody crop option for southern Australia*, RIRDC Publication No. 03/017: 166–168 (2004), for further discussion.

Related to the more westerly distributed *A. redolens* which differs most obviously in its normally prostrate growth form and generally broader phyllodes that are distinctively vanilla-scented (not so in *A. bartlei*), grey-green to glaucous and rounded to obtuse at their apices that are never ±uncinate.

This species was included by R.S.Cowan & B.R.Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11B: 44 (2001), within their circumscription of *A. redolens*, but it was noted there as a variant characterized by narrow, ±uncinate phyllodes and arborescent stature, and occurring in the Scaddan–Salmon Gums–Kau Rock area.

The phyllodes are somewhat variable in width. They are normally 3–6 mm wide, but a variant with consistently narrow phyllodes (2 mm wide) occurs in the vicinity of Circle Valley, S of Salmon Gums (e.g. *D.Collins s.n.*, PERTH), and some specimens possess a few phyllodes which are atypically wide (to 10 mm) (e.g. *B.R.Maslin 8217*, PERTH).

FOA Reference

Flora of Australia Project

Author

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