

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia benthamii Meisn.



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



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Restricted to the Kings Park and Subiaco areas of Perth, Wanneroo and near Yanchep, W.A.

Description

Shrub ±1 m high. New shoots minutely woolly. **Branchlets** ribbed, **glabrous**, occasionally ±sparsely minutely woolly. **Stipules** **caducous** but present and obvious on new shoots, partially or ±wholly joined, 1.5–2 mm long. Phyllodes **linear**, **attenuate** at both ends, often inequilateral, **straight** to ±**curved**, 2–4.5 cm long, 2–4 mm wide, **acute**, **pungent**, thinly **coriaceous**, **glabrous**, with 2 or 3 **distant** main nerves per face; secondary nerves few, parallel, obscure, infrequently **anastomosing**; **gland** 2.5–11 mm above **pulvinus**; **pulvinus** discernible but not well developed, 0.2–0.5 mm long, yellow, subsmooth to finely wrinkled. Peduncles 1 or 2 per **axil**, 2.5–5.5 mm long, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, 5 mm diam., 27–35-flowered, golden; bracteoles **spathulate**, sharply **inflexed**. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals free. Pods not seen.

Habitat

Grows typically on limestone breakaways.

Specimens

W.A.: Kings Park, *H.Demarz 6149* (PERTH); East Wanneroo, *J.Havel 120* (PERTH).

Notes

A poorly known species related to *A. sessilis* by its minutely woolly new shoots, united caducous stipules, axillary peduncles and free sepals; *A. sessilis* is most readily recognised by its shorter, normally terete to subterete phyllodes and mostly sessile, 18–24-flowered heads. *Acacia benthamii* closely resembles narrow phyllode forms of *A. cochlearis*; indeed, G.Bentham, *Fl. Austral.* 2: 324 (1864), considered it to be only a 'slight variety' of *A. cochlearis* to which he referred the Preiss paralectotype. *Acacia cochlearis* is most reliably distinguished from *A. benthamii* by its free stipules, epulvinate phyllodes, and straight (not crisped) hairs on its new shoots and often also by the branchlets. The status of *A. benthamii* will need to be reassessed when pods come to hand.

FOA Reference

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

Author

R.S.Cowan

Minor edits by J.Reid

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>
Copyright 2018. All rights reserved.