

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia besleyi Maslin



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

Common Name

Bes' Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in the Ravensthorpe Ra., south western W.A. Known from only a very few populations.

Description

Rounded or obconicoften bushy, **resinous shrub** 1–3 m tall. Bark stringy and **fibrous**, grey externally but the new bark beneath reddish brown. **Branchlets** smooth or **tuberculate**, **glabrous** or \pm sparsely **appressed** hairy. Phyllodes **linear**, gradually narrowed towards base, mostly shallowly **incurved**, **erect**, thinly **coriaceous**, **acute** and **mucronate**, 40–85 mm long, 2–3 (–3.5) mm wide, **glabrous**; **longitudinal** nerves 3–5, \pm not raised, widely spaced, central **nerve** normally yellow and more evident than flanking brownish nerves, **lateral** nerves absent or few; **gland** (0.5–) 1–3 mm above **pulvinus**. Inflorescences 2-headed racemes; **raceme axes** (1–) 2–4 (–6) mm long; peduncles 5–8 mm long, normally **glabrous**; heads **globular**, 15–22-flowered, yellow; bracteoles 0.8–1 mm long, laminae **acute** to short-**acuminate**. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals \pm free and **glabrous**; petals \pm **glabrous**. Pods **narrowly oblong**, 10–30 mm long, 3.5–5 mm wide, thinly **coriaceous-crustaceous**, **straight** to variously **curved** or **sigmoid**, often \pm **undulate**, sparsely to densely short-**pilose**. Seeds **longitudinal**, normally **obloid**, 2.8–3.5 mm long; **aril** white.

Phenology

Flowers: Oct.; mature pods Dec.

Habitat

Grows in undulating country along drainage lines within rocky terrain in loamy clay or red clay over granite or quartz diorite. Occurs in Mallee scrub dominated by various species *Eucalyptus* over a rather dense understorey shrub stratum dominated by species of *Melaleuca*.

Notes

Closest relative unknown but seems to have affinities with members of the *A. flavipila* group. See B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* for discussion. The first collection of the species was *L. Diels 4890* which was cited in L.Diels & E.Pritzel, *Bot. Jahrb. Syst.* 35: 304 (1904), under *A. heteroneura* (presumably an error for *A. heteroclita*).

Conservation

Acacia besleyi is listed as Priority One under Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora.

FOA Reference

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

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
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Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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