

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

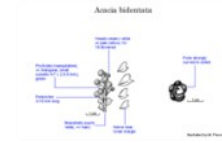
Acacia bidentata Benth.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs predominantly from near Winchester S to the Stirling Ra. Natl Park and E to near Grass Patch and Coolinup (c. 50 km E of Esperance); also found in the Kalbarri area, c. 250 km N of Winchester, south-western W.A.

Description

Prostrate or domed shrub to 0.5 (–1) m high. Branchlets scurfy white, pubescent, hirsutellous, appressed-pubescent or subglabrous, not spinose. Stipules caducous or inconspicuous and less than 1 mm long. Phyllodes inequilaterally obovate to obtriangular-obdeltate, with upper margin forming a prominent rounded angle towards apex and lower margin straight to shallowly convex and ending in a distinct short acute point, concave between the angle and point, usually 4–7 mm long and 2.5–5 mm wide, slightly thickened, green, glabrous or hairy on margins; main nerve obscure and near lower margin, sometimes with second nerve from pulvinus. Inflorescences 1–3-headed racemes with axes to 2 mm long; peduncles 3–10 mm long, glabrous or hairy; basal bracts persistent; heads globular to obloid, loosely 10–16-flowered, creamy white or pale yellow. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united; bracteoles not exerted in bud. Pods strongly curved to 1–1 1/2-coiled, to 15 mm long (unexpanded), 3–4 mm wide, thinly crustaceous, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, oblong-ovate, 3–3.5 mm long; aril oblique.

Habitat

Grows in clay, sand, sandy loam, gravelly loam and loam, in mallee woodland and heath.

Specimens

W.A.: c. 3 km N of Winchester, 28 Aug. 1972, C. Chapman s.n. (PERTH); 24.1 km from Kalbarri Coast road (Grey St) on road towards Ajana, R.S. & R.A. Cowan A-814 (CANB, K, MEL, NSW, NY, PERTH, US); Swan R., J. Drummond 38 (K, MEL, PERTH) and 148 (BM, K, LD, MEL, NSW, OXF, P, PERTH); c. 8 km NE of Ravensthorpe, B.R. Maslin 3927 (K, PERTH); Mt Madden, P.G. Wilson 6764 (CANB, MEL, NSW, NY, PERTH).

Notes

Similar to *A. orbifolia* which has larger, sinuate-dentate phyllodes, longer peduncles and larger heads with more flowers per head. The few specimens of *A. bidentata* (including Drummond 38 and 148) with larger than normal phyllodes, i.e. to 10 mm long and 7 mm wide, can be distinguished by the other character states separating the species. The two species appear to hybridise near Watheroo (cf. R.J. Cumming 2122, MELU, PERTH). Specimens of *A. ericksoniae* and *A. improcera* were formerly confounded with this species, and broad phyllode forms of *A. acanthoclada* are superficially similar; all three species are distinguished from *A. bidentata* by their spinose branchlets and golden flower-heads. Also similar to *A. aristulata*.

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
and Attractions
Western Australian Herbarium



Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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