

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia boormanii Maiden



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

Common Name

Snowy River Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs principally from S of Thredbo Village, N.S.W., S to Buchan, Vic.; naturalized in A.C.T. Further occurrences at Macanally Mtn near Cooma, N.S.W., and variants at Mt Typo and Gapsted, near Myrtleford, Vic.

Description

Bushy **shrub** (0.5–) 1–4 (–6) m high, readily coppicing. **Branchlets** often faintly **pruinose** at extremities, **glabrous**. Phyllodes **patent** to **erect**, sometimes **deflexed**, narrowly **linear**, flat, (2.5–) 3–6.5 (–8) cm long, usually (0.5–) 1–2 mm wide, narrowed at base, normally obliquely and excentrically **mucronate**, thin, usually green to grey-green, **glabrous** except **pulvinus** often sparsely hirsutellous adaxially; **midrib** and **lateral** nerves indistinct; **gland** not prominent, 2–16 mm above **pulvinus**. Inflorescences 5–10-headed racemes; **raceme axes** 1–4 (–6) cm long, slender, **straight** to **flexuose**, **glabrous** to subglabrous, slightly **pruinose** especially when young; peduncles 2–4 (–7) mm long, slender, **glabrous** to subglabrous; heads prolific, **globular**, 6–8 mm diam. (dry), 5–10-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united. Pods **linear**, to 9 cm long, 4–6.5 mm wide, firmly **chartaceous**, **glabrous**, dehiscent unilaterally. Seeds **longitudinal**, **oblong-elliptic**, 4.5–5 mm long, ±shiny, black; **aril** 1/2–2/3 length of seed.

Specimens

N.S.W.: Cowra Ck, Cooma, *R.H.Cabbage 1878* (NSW); Snowy R., 56 km SSW of Jindabyne, *J.Pickard & R.Coveny 2756* (PERTH). Vic.: Snowy R. Track, 1.5 km from Snowy R., 7 km SE of Mt Menaak, *H.van Rees 041* (NSW, PERTH).

Notes

The dwarf variant from Splitters Ck, Vic., noted under *A. boormanii* by B.R.Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11A: 334 (2001) is now described as *A. infecunda*. Other dwarf taxa, *A.nanopravissima* and *A. tabula*, also occur at Splitters Ck.

A variant from Mt Typo, c. 50 km SSW of Myrtleford, Vic., known by the phrase name *Acacia boormanii* var. *Mount Typo* (F.E.Bienvenu 11), is recognised especially by its phyllodes which are normally broader than normal (mostly 3–5 mm wide) and are distinctly glaucous when young (e.g. *F.E.Bienvenu T12*, PERTH). This variant requires further study. It seemingly hybridises with *A. pravissima* (e.g. *F.E.Bienvenu 0013*, MEL; this putative hybrid resembles *A. semibinervia*), may resemble narrow phyllode forms of *A. kettlewelliae* but is distinguished by its narrower pods (c. 5 mm wide) and insignificant gland. Plants from Gapsted, W of Myrtleford, Vic., are morphologically similar, but unpublished chemical data suggests that they differ from both 'typical' *A. boormanii* and the Mt Typo variant (e.g. *F.E.Bienvenu 0023*, MEL). Mt Typo and Gapsted are about 150 km W of the main occurrence of *A. boormanii*. Deflexed phyllodes, which are sometimes seen in *A. boormanii*, also occasionally occur in the long phyllode variant of *A. kybeanensis*.

An ornamental species which is spectacular when in bloom. Useful as a windbreak or screening plant especially if use is made of its suckering habit.

Similar to *A. linifolia* which has a more open habit, creamy yellow heads and broader pods.

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:



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