

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia brachybotrya Benth.



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Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com

B.R. Maslin



Source: Australian Plant Image Index
(dig.35223).
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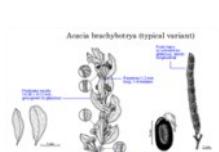
Source: Australian Plant Image Index
(dig.35227).
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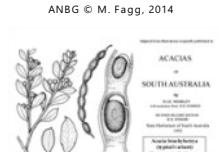
Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com



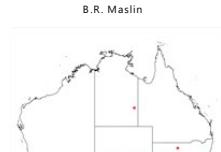
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Acacia brachybotrya occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Grey Mulga, Grey Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Widely distributed in semi-arid areas of south eastern Australia from the Murray R., S.A., E to near Bendigo, Vic. and N to Nymagee, N.S.W. The Qld record of *A. brachybotrya* by L.Pedley, *Contr. Queensland Herb.* 4: 6 (1969), is *A. victoriae*.

Description

Dense, round, spreading shrub 1–3 m high. Branchlets sparsely to densely puberulous to short-pilose or sometimes velutinous with ±straight and patent hairs, sometimes glabrous. New shoots glabrous or white- to cream-hairy. Phyllodes variable, normally slightly asymmetrically oblong-elliptic to oblong-obovate (but frequently narrowly so) or obovate to oblanceolate, (0.8–) 1–3 cm long and (4–) 5–12 (–15) mm wide with $l:w = 1.5–3.5$, obtuse to subacute, grey-green to glaucous, with indumentum similar to branchlets, sometimes glabrous, 1-nerved per face; lateral nerves not prominent. Inflorescences 1–4-headed racemes; raceme axes 0.5–2 (–3) mm long, hairy, sometimes glabrous; peduncles 5–12 (–20) mm long, slender, hairy, sometimes glabrous; heads globular, 28–36-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals variably united. Pods linear, submoniliform, to 9 cm long, 5–8 (–11) mm wide, firmly chartaceous to coriaceous, dark brown or black, lightly pruinose, glabrous or hairy. Seeds longitudinal, 4–5.5 mm long, subshiny, brown to black, punctate about centre, arillate.

Habitat

Occurs on a variety of soils, often in mallee communities.

Specimens

S.A.: c. 15 km N of Overland Corner, *D.J.E.Whibley* 3677 (AD, MO n.v., MSC n.v., MTJB n.v.); Scorpion Springs Cons. Park, vicinity of the springs, *D.E.Symon* 8771 (AD, CANB, NSW, BRI). N.S.W.: E of Bungooney, Lake Cargelligo, *P.L.Milthorpe* 5240 & *G.M.Cunningham* (NSW, PERTH); 17 km S of Kaleentha Loop, *J.Pickard* 2578 (NSW). Vic.: 4 km NW of Gunbower P.O., *A.C.Beaglehole* 83508 (MEL); 25.2 km E of Nhill on Western Hwy, *N.Hall* H80/107 (MEL, NSW).

Notes

Acacia brachybotrya together with *A. argyrophylla*, *A. dictyocarpa* and *A. spilleriana* constitute the '*A. brachybotrya* group'.

The concept of *A. brachybotrya* in B.R.Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11A: 357 (2001), is substantially revised here. In that account *A. dictyocarpa* was treated as the second variant under *A. brachybotrya* but it is now regarded as a distinct species, most readily distinguished from the more widespread *A. brachybotrya* by its appressed branchlet hairs and its new shoots sometimes golden-hairy. Possible intermediates between the two species occur in areas where their geographic ranges of overlap, e.g. 19 km S of Mannum on the rd to Murray Bridge, *B.R.Maslin* 5986 (AD, K, PERTH). The third variant noted under *A. brachybotrya* by B.R.Maslin, *loc. cit.*, is now treated as *Acacia* sp. *Wirrabara* (B.R.Maslin 5999) under *A. spilleriana*.

Acacia brachybotrya is occasionally confused with *A. decora* (which has much longer racemes and appressed-puberulous peduncles).

Acacia × grayana is a hybrid between *A. brachybotrya* and *A. euthycarpa*, *fide* G.J.Leach & T.Whiffen, *Bot. J. Linn. Soc.* 76: 53–59 (1978); in that publication the latter parent was treated as *A. calamifolia*.

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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Revised by B.R.Maslin

This identification key and fact sheets are available as a mobile application:



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and Attractions
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Australian
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Resources
Study



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