

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia celsa Tindale



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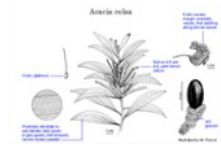
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Acacia celsa occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Brown Salwood

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in north-eastern Qld, from near Cooktown, S to eastern portion of the Atherton Tableland, with disjunct occurrence on Paluma Ra. (NW of Townsville).

Description

Tree 8–30 m high, canopy grey green. Bark shallowly **rimose**, grey. **Branchlets** flattened and angled at extremities, **glabrous**. Phyllodes **dimidiate** to subfalcate, 5–15.5 cm long, (1–) 1.5–2.5 (–3.5) cm wide, thinly **coriaceous**, ±dark green to grey green with a slight sheen, **glabrous**; **longitudinal** nerves numerous (4–5 per mm), parallel and not **anastomosing**, 3 or 4 main nerves slightly raised (when dry), broader and more prominent than the rest, 3 or 4 less prominent secondary nerves also present, the minor nerves not or scarcely raised, main nerves commonly **confluent** with lower margin for a short distance above **pulvinus**; **pulvinus** 3–6 mm long. Inflorescences **simple**, 4–8 per **axil**; peduncles 4–6 mm long; spikes 3–6 cm long, pale lemon yellow. Flowers 5-**merous**; **calyx gamosepalous**, c. 0.5 mm long, dissected for ¼ its length, **glabrous**; **ovary glabrous**. Pods **oblong** to **narrowly oblong**, **undulate** (especially the **dorsal** margin), moderately to strongly **curved** (sometimes into an open circle), 2–5 cm long, (1–) 1.5–2 cm wide, **woody**, **glabrous**, dehiscing along **dorsal** suture, with ±**longitudinal**, raised and **anastomosing** nerves. Seeds **oblique** to transverse, ±**ovate**, 3–6 mm long, brown to black; **aril** greyish cream.

Phenology

Flowers Jan.–May.

Habitat

Grows in clay or loamy clay, commonly over granite, in rainforest habitats.

Specimens

Qld: Double Mountain, *N.Byrnes* 152 (BRI); Paluma Dam, NW of Paluma, 68.9 km S along T/O to Daintree from Cooktown, *M.W.McDonald* 2362 & *P.A.Butcher* (BRI, NSW, PERTH); 15.5 km S of Cooktown-Lakeland road on Daintree Rd to Mossman, *M.W.McDonald* & *B.R.Maslin* BRM 7661 (CANB, BRI, NSW, PERTH); 13 km NNE of Tully, *J.Moriarty* 2964 (PERTH).

Notes

Details of utilisation etc. of *A. celsa* are given by M.W.McDonald & B.R.Maslin, *Austral. Syst. Bot.* 13: 37 (2000).

A member of the '*A. aulacocarpa* group', most closely related to *A. aulacocarpa* and *A. disparrima*. It is distinguished from all members of the group by its obviously curved, woody pods with undulate dorsal margins. Other distinctive features include its tall stature, rainforest habitat and large number of spikes per axil. Putative natural hybrids between *A. aulacocarpa* and *A. celsa* occur at Paluma Dam, Qld.

Acacia celsa was mentioned in *Fl. Australia* 11B: 169 (2001) under *A. aulacocarpa*, but was formally recognized too late to be fully described in that volume.

FOA Reference

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

Author

B.R.Maslin, J.Reid

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



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Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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