

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia cheelii Blakely



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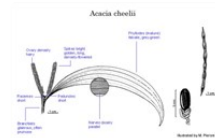
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Acacia cheelii occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Motherumbah

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs mainly on the north-western plains and north-western slopes of the Great Dividing Ra., N.S.W., and in the Hunter R. Valley.

Description

Tree to 10 m high, slender, **glaucous**. Bark ribbony or flaky, blackish to grey. **Branchlets** angular or flattened towards apex, red-brown or brown, **glabrous**, often **pruinose**. Phyllodes mostly very narrowly **elliptic**, mostly shallowly to markedly **falcate**, flat, 10–16 (–23) cm long, (6–) 10–18 (–32) mm wide, **coriaceous**, **glabrous**, with 3–6 ± prominent main nerves **continuous** to base; minor nerves (4–) 5–10 per mm, parallel, not **anastomosing**; **gland** inconspicuous, basal. Spikes 2–6.2 cm long, golden. Flowers 5-**merous**; **calyx** 0.4–0.8 mm long, dissected to 1/4; lower half **villous**; apex to halfway down with red-brown or black glandular hairs; **corolla** 1.5–2.1 mm long, dissected to 1/2, **glabrous** or with few hairs; **ovary** densely **pubescent**. Pods **linear**, slightly **moniliform**, mostly 5–11 cm long, ± **woody** to **coriaceous**, **scurfy**, hairy near base. Seeds **longitudinal**, **oblong** to **narrowly oblong** or **elliptic**, 3.7–6.7 mm long, brownish black; **pleurogram** often with dark halo; **areole** open.

Phenology

Flowers Aug.–late Oct.; fruits Nov. & Dec.

Habitat

Grows in eucalypt woodland and scrub, especially on rocky or stony hillsides and hilltops, usually in skeletal or sandy soils.

Specimens

N.S.W.: Nandewar Ra., Mt Kaputar Rd, *B.G. Briggs* (NSW53771); Barbers Pinnacle, Boggabri, *R.H. Cabbage* 2470 (NSW); 98.2 km SW of Bingara on the Narrabri road, *R.G. Coveny* 12342 & *J. Dalby* (B, BRI, HO, K, MEL, MO, NY, PERTH, TL); near Mt Wheoh, Warrumbungle Natl Park, *G. Harden* 9 (NSW).

Notes

This species and the following comprise the '*A. cheelii* group' of eastern Australia: *A. binervia*, *A. blakei*, *A. bulgaensis*, *A. burrowii*, *A. georgensis*, *A. matthewii*, *A. spania*, *A. sparsiflora*, *A. striatifolia*, *A. tenuinervis* and *A. williamsiana*. The group is distinguished by spikes arranged in short racemes, phyllodes with numerous, closely spaced, non-anastomosing longitudinal nerves, and linear pods slightly constricted between the seeds. *Acacia julifera* is related to this group but most readily distinguished by its normally simple (not racemose) inflorescences and smaller flowers. *Acacia meiosperma* was referred to the '*A. cheelii* group' by NSW, *Fl. Austral.* 11B: 265 (2001), but it is now regarded as member of the '*A. tumida* group'.

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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Edited by B.R.Maslin

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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