

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia claviseta Maslin, M.D.Barrett & R.L.Barrett



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

Common Name

Club-tipped Whorled Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in the E Kimberley region of northern W.A. to the S of Kununurra where is known from a few scattered localities on Bedford Downs Stn, the Osmond Ra. and near Pompeys Pillar, N of Warmun; also occurs in Keep River Natl Park, N.T., c. 100 km NE of Kununurra.

Description

Erect, much-branched, slightly **viscid shrub** normally 0.6–0.8 m tall. **Branchlets** densely **pilose** to **pubescent**, the hairs pale yellow aging white. **Stipules** **setose**, (1–) 1.5–2.5 mm long. **Phyllodes** 9–16 per whorl, **crowded**, (3–) 4–7 (–8) mm long (excluding **mucro**), 0.3–0.4 mm wide, **erect** to **ascending**, **terete** to **±flat**, **puberulous**; **longitudinal** nerves **±not visible**; **mucro** narrowly **clavate**, (0.5–) 1–1.5 mm long and yellow to light brown, or **setose** (not **clavate**) and (0.2–) 0.3–0.5 mm long. **Peduncles** 15–30 mm long, **±densely pilose** with pale golden or sometimes white hairs; heads 30–42-flowered. **Bracteoles** c. 3 mm long, the laminae **caudate** to long-**acuminate**. **Sepals** c. ½ length of petals, variably dissected for ¼–¾ their length into 5–7, **±oblong** lobes that are golden-hairy at their apices; petals 5, **±obscurely striate**, with pale yellow hairs at apices. **Pods** **sessile**, 10–35 mm long, 6–8 mm wide, flat but **±slightly raised** over seeds along midline, **glabrous**, reticulately nerved. **Seeds** **longitudinal**, irregularly **obloid** to **ellipsoid**, 4–5.5 mm long, **areole** small (0.5–1 × 0.4–0.7 mm) and normally 'u'-shaped, **aril clavate**.

Phenology

Flowers Feb.-Mar and July.-Aug.; mature pods commonly co-occur with flowers.

Habitat

Grows on top of sandstone ridges, on sand flats and shallow sand lenses among sandstone boulders and on scree slopes.

Specimens

W.A.: [localities withheld for conservation reasons] *A.C.Beauglehole* 53684 (BRI *n.v.*, PERTH); *K.F.Kenneally & B.P.M.Hyland* KFK 10731 (DNA, PERTH). N.T.: *I.D.Cowie* 12097 (B *n.v.*, BRI *n.v.*, DNA *n.v.*, MEL *n.v.*, MO *n.v.*, PERTH).

Notes

Appears most closely related to *A. anasilla* and *A. lycopodiifolia* which are most readily distinguished by their indumentum comprising white (never yellow) hairs, normally non-clavate phyllode setae and shorter calyces (clearly < ½ the length of the corolla) with short, linear to narrowly triangular lobes. Specimens of *A. claviseta* with phyllodes having short, non-clavate setae may superficially resemble *A. capillaris* which is distinguished by its longer stipules, short, glabrous calyx and its indumentum of white hairs. *Acacia claviseta* also appears to have some affinities with *A. prolata*.

The distinctive narrowly clavate setae that are normally 1–1.5 mm long commonly occur on youngest phyllodes; however, with age the terminal swollen portion of the trichome is lost and the phyllodes are then terminated by a fine setose point mostly 0.3–0.5 mm long. Many specimens are dimorphic for this character. The yellow hairs that are normally found on the branchlets, phyllodes and peduncles often impart a faint but discernible yellowish tinge to the plants.

Conservation

Acacia claviseta is listed as Priority Three under Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora.

FOA Reference

Flora of Australia Project

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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