

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia cognata Domin



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

Common Name

Narrow-leaf Bower Wattle, Bower Wattle, River Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in south-eastern Australia on the coastal plain and adjacent foothills of the Great Divide from near Nowra, N.S.W., S to near Orbost, Vic.

Description

Shrub or tree 3–10 m high, \pm viscid. Branchlets willowy and arching to pendulous, commonly glabrous with longitudinal resinous bands alternating with green to brown ribs. Phyllodes narrowly linear to linear-elliptic, (4–) 5–10 cm long, 1–3.5 (–4.5) mm wide, l:w = 20–70, thin, dark green to yellowish green, resinous-punctate, glabrous except margins typically \pm antrorsely puberulous, normally 3-nerved per face with the central nerve clearly the most prominent (the 2 flanking nerves often scarcely visible); lateral nerves few, obscure, occasionally anastomosing. Inflorescences simple, 2 per axil; peduncles 3–6 (–10) mm long, \pm appressed-puberulous; basal bract persistent; heads globular, 4–5 mm diam., 10–17-flowered, pale lemon-yellow. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united. Pods linear, to 10 cm long, 2–4 mm wide, chartaceous, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, oblong, 4–4.5 mm long, dull, dark brown; aril terminal.

Habitat

Grows in moist gullies and on hillsides in lowland sclerophyll forest, on sandstone and in soils derived from granite.

Specimens

N.S.W.: Princes Hwy, Corunna State Forest, 9.7 km S of Narooma, *R.Coveny* 2922 (NSW, PERTH). Vic.: Smellies Ck, Mallacoota Inlet area, *A.C.Beauglehole* 33738 & *K.Morrison* (MEL); Eleven Bob Track, 2.1 km from Mt Buck, *H.van Rees* 022 (MEL).

Notes

Some of the phyllodes on *R.Coveny* 2921 (MEL, NSW) are up to 4.5 mm wide, but those on *R.Coveny* 2922, collected in the same general area, are uniformly narrower. The number of main nerves varies because the longitudinally trending secondary nerves sometimes coalesce to form weaker, pseudo-primary nerves.

Frequently cultivated in Vic.

Closely allied to *A. subporosa* which has less pendulous branches and branchlets, broader phyllodes with more nerves per face, commonly longer peduncles, larger heads with more flowers and slightly wider pods; the two are sympatric at Twofold Bay, the type locality for both species, where they may possibly intergrade, *vide* R.S.Cowan & B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* 10: 78 (1995). A member of the *A. verniciflua* complex and sometimes confused with *A. stictophylla* from the Dandenongs, Vic. The W.A. species *A. vittata* has the same sort of branchlet resinosity alternating with longitudinal non-resinous bands, but it is distinguished especially by its wider, multi-nerved phyllodes, more flowers per head, smaller pods and shorter seeds. Also similar to *A. veronica* and *A. viscidula*, both of which have 4-merous flowers. There are numerous cultivars, many registered, recognized for this species, see E.Brueggemeier, *Australian Plants* 25: 258–263 (2010) for descriptions and photographs of most. The cultivar *Acacia verniciflua* 'Curtain Call' is a suspected hybrid between *A. cognata* and *A. verniciflua*, see E.Brueggemeier, *op cit.* 265.

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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and Attractions
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Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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