

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia continua Benth.



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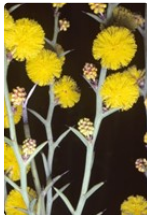
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See illustration.



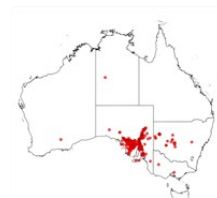
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Acacia continua occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Thorn Wattle, Thorny Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Common in S.A. from Eyre Peninsula and Flinders and Lofty Ranges S to near Adelaide, and scattered localities eastward to near Lake Cargellico, N.S.W.

Description

Openly branching **rigid shrub** to 2 m high. **Branchlets terete**, ribbed, **glabrous**. Phyllodes **continuous** with **branchlets** but not forming cauline wings, **ascending, straight** or **±recurved**, often kinked at large **gland**, **±terete**, with lower ones 2–4 cm long, 1.5–2 mm diam. basally and upper ones shorter, tapering to **pungent tip**, **glabrous**, with c. 7 **distant** nerves. Inflorescences **simple**, 1 or 2 per **axil**; peduncles 2–6 (–8) mm long, **glabrous**; basal bracts dark brown and prominent; heads **globular**, 6–10 mm diam., ±30-flowered, golden; bracteoles widely **spathulate, obtuse**, dark brown, evident in buds. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals united. Pods **linear**, constricted between and raised on alternate sides over seeds, **curved** to once-**coiled**, to 8 cm long, 3–4 mm wide, **coriaceous, glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal, elliptic**, 3–8 mm long, dull brown; **aril lateral, clavate**.

Habitat

Grows in hard alkaline, calcareous and sandy alkaline soils, in woodland, open scrub and *Triodia* grassland.

Specimens

S.A.: Miccollo Hill, Gawler Ra., *B.J.Conn 1813* (K, MEL, NSW, PERTH, TL); Eyre Peninsula, Mt Gairdner, *N.N.Donner 3355* (AD, PERTH); Port Germein Gorge, Southern Flinders Ra., *D.J.E.Whibley 2031* (AD, PERTH). N.S.W.: Mootwingee Natl Park, *P.E.Conrick 1461* (AD, PERTH).

Notes

The arrangement of inflorescence and peduncular bracts, bracteoles, united sepals and curved to coiled pods suggest this species is nearest the '*A. pravifolia* group', in spite of the form of the phyllodes which in that group are commonly inequilateral, articulate on the stem and flattened.

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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Minor edits by J.Rogers

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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