

# WATTLE

## Acacias of Australia

### *Acacia cretacea* Maslin & Whibley



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B.R. Maslin



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

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Restricted to N of Cowell, north-eastern Eyre Peninsula, S.A.

### Description

Spindly, straggly **shrub** or **tree** to c. 4 m high. **Branchlets** angled at extremities, **pruinose**, **glabrous**. Phyllodes rather **crowded**, on pronounced **stem-projections**, **ascending** to **erect**, narrowly **oblongate** to narrowly **elliptic**, **straight**, 7–10 cm long, 9–20 mm wide, occasionally wider (25–40 mm), **obtuse**, thin to **coriaceous**, grey-green, **glaucous** when young, **glabrous**, 1-nerved per face, finely **penninerved**; **gland** not prominent, 0–4 mm above **pulvinus**. Inflorescences **racemose**; **raceme axes** 2–4 cm long, **pruinose**, **glabrous**; peduncles 4–11 mm long, **pruinose**, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, 4–5 mm diam., densely 35–45-flowered, lemon yellow to golden; bracteoles **glabrous**. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals 3/4-united. Pods **linear**, to 9 cm long, 5–6 mm wide, firmly **chartaceous** to thinly **coriaceous**, **pruinose** (young), **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, 5–7 mm long, slightly shiny, black; **funicle** 1/2 to wholly encircling seed in a single fold, reddish; **aril clavate**.

### Habitat

Grows in deep red sand, in gently undulating country with low sand ridges, in low shrubland and mallee scrub.

### Specimens

S.A.: near Cowell, *M. Simmons* 1722 (CANB, K, PERTH).

### Notes

A rare species considered endangered, *vide* B.R.Maslin & D.J.E.Whibley, *Nuytsia* 6: 27 (1987).

Distinguished from other members of the '*A. microbotrya* group' occurring on the Eyre Peninsula by its pruinose branchlets, inflorescences and pods; see B.R.Maslin & D.J.E.Whibley, *Nuytsia* 6: 27 (1987), for discussion. Related to *A. toondulya*. The more southerly distributed *A. gillii* has a similar habit to that of *A. cretacea*.

### FOA Reference

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

### Author

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Minor edits by B.R.Maslin, J.Reid & J.Rogers

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



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Department of the Environment and Energy



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