

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia cupularis* Domin



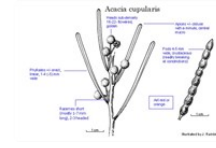
Source: Australian Plant Image Index (dig.849).  
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Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
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B.R. Maslin



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Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
See illustration.



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

### Common Name

Coastal Umbrella Bush

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Widespread in coastal and near coastal areas of southern Australia from Albany, W.A., through S.A. to the Vic. border, extending inland to Dimboola, western Vic. and Three Springs, W.A.

### Description

Open to subdense **shrub** usually 1–2.5 m high, to 2.5 m wide, **glabrous**. **Branchlets** commonly dark red-brown, often lightly **pruinose**. Phyllodes subdistant, **ascending** to **erect**, narrowly **linear, straight**, 3–8 (–9) cm long, 1–4 (–5) mm wide, **rounded-obtuse**, with minute and  $\pm$ central **mucre**,  $\pm$ thick, finely wrinkled when dry, subglaucous to dark green; **midrib** not prominent; glands 2 or 3, with lowermost 3–14 mm above **pulvinus**, and **distal** glands smaller with one at base of **mucre**. Inflorescences 2 or 3-headed racemes; **raceme axes** 1–7 (–9) mm long; basal bracts **caducous** but **bract scars persistent**; peduncles 2–6 mm long; heads **globular**, subdense, 16–22-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals united into a  $\pm$ **truncate calyx**. Pods  $\pm$ **erect**,  $\pm$ submoniliform, to 7 cm long, 4–5 mm wide, **crustaceous**, breaking readily at constrictions, commonly dark brown. Seeds **longitudinal, oblong**, 3–5 mm long, dull, light brown; **aril** orange to scarlet.

### Habitat

Grows in sand, sometimes on dunes, or in loam or sandy clay in mallee communities.

### Specimens

W.A.: Esperance, 1.6–3.2 km from ocean, *B.R.Maslin 2544a* (CANB, K, MEL, PERTH); 33 km from Morawa towards Three Springs, *B.R.Maslin 4275* (AD, CANB, PERTH). S.A.: 3.5 km E of S.A.–W.A. State Border, *R.J.Chinnock 3347* (AD, PERTH); Hincks Natl Park, *D.Symon 6513* (AD). Vic.: Little Desert, S of Kaniva, *A.C.Beauglehole 18916* (MEL).

### Notes

*Acacia cupularis* is a member of the '*A. bivenosa* group' and until recently was considered conspecific with *A. ligulata* (*vide* A.R.Chapman & B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* 8: 260 (1992)). Narrow phyllode forms of *A. ligulata* are most reliably distinguished from *A. cupularis* by wider, woody pods which don't break readily at constrictions between the seeds and phyllodes which are thicker (therefore  $\pm$ coarsely wrinkled when dry) and uncinata with a recurved to straight mucre. Phyllodes may resemble those of *A. maxwellii* which differs in having pubescent branchlets and longer peduncles. *Acacia maxwellii* is also a prostrate shrub, while *A. cupularis* is normally erect, however a prostrate form of the latter is known from coastal cliffs in S.A. Superficially similar to *A. crassiuscula* and *A. anceps*  $\times$  *nematophylla*.

### 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 B.R.Maslin & J.Rogers

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



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Study



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