

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia dentifera Benth.



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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Tooth-bearing Acacia

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Found from the Helena Valley near Perth, S to near Bridgetown with one collection from Warriup Hill. c. 50 km NE of Albany, south-western W.A.

Description

Shrub 2–3 m high. Branchlets straight, brown-dotted, glabrous. Stipules persistent but sometimes only bases remaining as indurate tooth-like projections at old nodes. Phyllodes linear, sometimes narrowly elliptic, ±straight to shallowly curved, 7–15 cm long, 2–5 mm wide, acute, mucronate, thin, green, glabrous, punctate by circular red-brown resin-hairs when young; midrib prominent; lateral nerves absent or obscure; gland commonly absent; pulvinus 0.5–1 mm long. Inflorescences simple but initiated on new shoots which sometimes resemble terminal racemes; peduncles twinned, 1–2 cm long, glabrous, with a ±caducous bract near or above middle, ebracteate at base; heads globular to obloid, 30–45-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals ±free. Pods ±terete, slightly constricted between seeds, to 6.5 cm long, 3–4 mm wide, thinly coriaceous, red-brown, obscurely longitudinally reticulate, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, oblong, 3.5–4.5 mm long, semi-glossy, dark brown; aril white.

Habitat

Grows in granitic or lateritic soil, loam, clayey sand over granite and clay, often near watercourses or granite rocks in temperate *Eucalyptus* forest.

Specimens

W.A.: Swan R., *J.Drummond s.n.* (K, MPU) and *coll. 2, no. 298* (BM, G, K, P); Warriup Hill, S coast NE of Albany, *K.Newbey 2627* (PERTH); near Maddington, Canning R., *L.Preiss 932* (BM, C, FI, K, LUND, M, MO, NAP, RO (sphalm '787') & TCD (sphalm '787')).

Notes

Closely allied to *A. graniticola* and *A. tuberculata*, and more distantly to *A. nodiflora*. Superficially similar to *A. dietrichiana* from Qld, which is recognised especially by its viscid branchlets, generally longer phyllodes, minute raceme axes and exarillate seeds.

The specimen, *J.Drummond 5: 7*, cited by G.Bentham, *Fl. Austral.* 2: 261 (1864), is *A. veronica*. Also, Bentham erroneously described the aril colour of *A. dentifera* as orange.

This species, like *A. trigonophylla*, is unusual in that the aril faces the base, rather than the apex of the pod.

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



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