

Acacia derwentiana A.M.Gray



Common Name

Derwent Cascade

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Southern Tas. where largely confined to banks of the Derwent R. and some of its lower tributaries; also ocurs, infrequently, along the Carlton and Prosser rivers and their tributaries.

Description

Shrub 1–3 (–5) m high. Branchlets slender and arching or pendulous at their extremities. Phyllodes scattered, never tightly clustered, linear to very narrowly elliptic, flat, 2–3.5 (–6.5) cm long, 1–2 (–2.5) mm wide, pungent, with 3 nerves (the central one the most prominent, the lateral two sometimes obscure); anastomosing nerves absent; gland often absent basal; pulvinus short. Inflorescences simple; peduncles (3–) 5–8 mm long; spikes interrupted, (5–) 10–25 mm long, pale yellow to almost lemon yellow; flowers 4-merous, 5–8 (–15) and widely spaced within the spike. Pods linear, curved, irregularly constricted between seeds, 2.5–3.5 (–5) cm long, 2–4 mm wide. Seeds elliptic; aril much-folded.

Specimens

Tas.: Dawson Rd crossing, Brad R., A.M.Gray 918 (HO n.v.); Tyenna R., Mill Lodge, A.M.Gray 963 (HO n.v., MEL).

Notes

Most closely related to A riceana which differs most obviously in having phyllodes with l:w = 5–12 and often in tight fasciculate clusters of 3–6 (–10); in A derwentiana the phyllodes have l:w = 12–20 (–40) and are seldom tightly clustered. Also related to A axillaris which is readily distinguished by its flowers in globular heads.

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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