

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia difformis* R.T.Baker



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
B.R. Maslin



Source: Australian Plant Image Index (dig.9757).  
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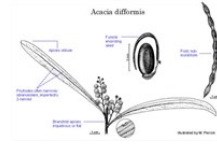
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See illustration.



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

### Common Name

Drooping Wattle, Wyalong Wattle, Mystery Wattle (Vic.)

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Scattered on the inland slopes of the Great Divide and adjacent plains from Cobar and Merrygoen, N.S.W., to Dimboola, Vic.

### Description

Irregularly formed **shrub** or **rounded tree** normally 2–7 m high, often suckering and forming thickets. **Branchlets** acutely **triquetrous** or flat at extremities, red-brown, **glabrous**. Phyllodes often **pendulous**, narrowly **oblongate**, sometimes narrowly **elliptic** or **linear**, **straight** to shallowly **recurved**, (4–) 6–16 (–20) cm long, (3–) 5–15 (–30) mm wide, **obtuse**, green to ash-coloured, **glabrous**, with prominent **midrib** and a weaker **nerve** parallel to **midrib** near **adaxial** margin, finely **penninerved**; glands 1 or 2, with lowermost normally 1–3 cm above **pulvinus** and sometimes touching **adaxial longitudinal nerve** or connected to it by a fine **oblique nerve**. Inflorescences 8–25-headed racemes; **raceme axes** 1–6 (–7) cm long, **glabrous**; peduncles (2–) 3–6 (–8) mm long, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, (15–) 20–35-flowered, light golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united. Pods  $\pm$ **moniliform**, to 20 cm long, 4–6 mm wide, thinly **coriaceous** to **crustaceous**, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, **oblong** to **elliptic**, 6.5–8 mm long, slightly shiny, dark brown; **funicle** encircling seed in a single fold, reddish black; **aril clavate**.

### Phenology

Often flowers in summer.

### Habitat

Grows in sand or sandy loam, usually in mallee communities or open forest.

### Specimens

N.S.W.: Goonoo State Forest, 8 km E of Mogrigray, 9 Dec. 1961, *E.F.Constable* 15 (MEL, MO, NSW, PERTH); 41.5 km WNW of West Wyalong towards Rankins Springs, *R.Coveny* 2551 (MEL, PERTH). Vic.: Bendigo Whipstick, c. 14 km due N of Bendigo township, *B.R.Maslin* 5855 (CANB, MEL, PERTH); Wright paddock adjoining Nhill Rd near Dimboola, 23 Nov. 1899, *F.M.Reader* s.n. (MEL).

### Notes

A distinctive member of the '*Acacia microbotrya* group' on account of its phyllodes with a strong midrib and a weaker secondary nerve parallel to it which runs  $\pm$  the full length of the phyllode near the adaxial margin. *Acacia hakeoides* is similar in phyllode and pod shape and size but differs especially by having phyllodes with 1 nerve per face, white-fimbriolate bracteoles and funicles that do not encircle the seeds.

### FOA Reference

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

### Author

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



**Australian Government**  
Department of the Environment and Energy



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