

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia fuscaneura – *pteraneura* group

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Most material assigned to this entity occurs in the region from Paynes Find and Yalgoo N to the Barlee Range and the southern Pilbara region in the vicinity of Newman, however, there are records further E from near Leonora, Cundelee (c. 200 km E of Kalgoorlie) and McKay Range (Little Sandy Desert). Not unexpectedly this distribution encompasses the geographic range of both *A. fuscaneura* and *A. pteraneura*.

Description

Shrub or **tree** 3–7 m tall. **Branchlets** obscurely ribbed or ribless, the ribs not **resinous** or (at extremities of **branchlets**) with a veneer of translucent resin. New shoots dark-coloured, with glandular hairlets **±persistent** on expanding phyllodes. Phyllodes 50–100 (–120) mm long, 0.8–1.5 mm wide, **incurved** to **sigmoid** or **sinuous**, rarely **straight** or with a few **recurved**, flat to **terete**, never all **terete** as in *A. pteraneura*, when flat (as in *A. fuscaneura*) then intermixed with a few (normally the youngest ones) that are **compressed to terete**, mostly dull green. **Gland** normally 2–9 mm above the **pulvinus**, **lamina** often slightly kinked or swollen at the **gland**. Pods commonly dark brown and sometimes tinged purplish, normally winged (**wing** commonly rather narrow, c. 1 mm wide), rarely bevel-edged.

Specimens

W.A.: Cundelee, *P. Boswell E1* (PERTH: flowering specimen, need pods to confirm identification); 63 km S of Meekatharra on Great Northern Highway to Cue, *B.R. Maslin 9041* (PERTH); Waterharra Creek, 23.5 km W of Mount Magnet on road to Yalgoo, *B.R. Maslin & J.E. Reid BRM 9790* (PERTH); Paynes Find – Thundelarra road, c. 10 km NW of Great Northern Highway, c. 15 km due N of Paynes Find, *B.R. Maslin & J.E. Reid BRM 9964B* (PERTH); c. 1.3 km W of Great Northern Highway, Fortescue River floodplain area, 3 km NW of Capricorn roadhouse, 10 km due SE of Newman, *J.E. Reid 8* (PERTH); South Barlee Range, 7 Sept. 1959, *A. Robison s.n.* (PERTH 00490954).

Notes

The occasional specimens with phyllodes exceeding 10 cm long are difficult to distinguish from the more widespread *A. paraneura*. However, in plants of *A. fuscaneura* – *pteraneura* group the branchlets and phyllodes are never pendulous and the youngest 1–3 phyllodes on the new shoots are covered by dark-coloured glandular hairlets that completely obscure the underlying nerves and conventional white hairs. In *A. paraneura* the youngest 1–3 phyllodes are commonly finely or sometimes obviously striate with at least some white appressed hairs visible between the nerves that are normally invested with glandular hairlets; only occasionally are the nerves and hairs obscured as in *A. fuscaneura* – *pteraneura* group.

As discussed by B.R.Maslin & J.E.Reid, *Nuytsia* 22: 213 (2012) there are a number of specimens that appear to be intermediates or intergrades between *A. fuscaneura* and *A. pteraneura*; these specimens are labeled '*A. fuscaneura-pteraneura* group'. Because of the complex patterns of variation involved specimens assigned to *Acacia fuscaneura* – *pteraneura* group often cannot be easily discriminated from *A. fuscaneura* or *A. pteraneura*. Further field and herbarium study, and especially genetic information, is needed to resolve these complexities. Note: Recent study has shown that two of the specimens referred by Maslin & Reid (*l.c.*) to *A. fuscaneura-pteraneura* group are better placed elsewhere, namely, *B.R. Maslin 8994* is now regarded as *A. ? pteraneura* and *B.R. Maslin & J.E. Reid BRM 9964B* is *A. fuscaneura*.

FOA Reference

Flora of Australia Project

Author

B.R.Maslin

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



Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



URL: <https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/wattle>
Copyright 2018. All rights reserved.