

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia galeata Maslin



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See illustration.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in the Shark Bay area, W.A., from Wooramel S to Nerren Nerren on the mainland, also on Dorre Is. and Dirk Hartog Is.

Description

Bushy **shrub** or **tree** to 5–6 m high. New shoots **citron-sericeous**; hairs ageing white. **Branchlets glabrous**. Phyllodes rather spreading, narrowly **elliptic to lanceolate**, \pm inequilateral, **straight** to shallowly **falcate**, 6–11 cm long, 6–15 mm wide, **acuminate**, rather **glaucous, glabrous**, with 2 or 3 (–4) main nerves with numerous fine longitudinally **anastomosing** venules in between forming a microscopic **reticulum**. Inflorescences 3–5-headed very reduced racemes, often appearing as **axillary fascicles**; **raceme axes** 1–1.5 mm long; peduncles 4–7 mm long, sparsely to densely **appressed-puberulous**; heads **globular**, 4–5 mm diam., 35–45-flowered, golden. Flowers **4-merous**; sepals c. 1/2-united. Pods submoniliform, strongly raised over and \pm constricted between seeds, to 18 cm long, 7–8 mm wide, **coriaceous** to subwoody, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, broadly **elliptic to oblong-elliptic**, to 7.5 mm long, subglossy, dark brown; **aril** large, hood-shaped, orange.

Habitat

Grows in sand and loam, in scrub, shrubland and low woodland.

Specimens

W.A.: Dirk Hartog Is., Apr. 1974, *T.Evans* (PERTH); 39.5 km S of Overlander Roadhouse on North West Coastal Hwy, *B.R.Maslin 2781* (CANB, K, PERTH); Shark Bay, Voyage on H.M.S.Herald, *W.G.Milne* (K).

Notes

Without known close relatives but superficially similar to *A. microbotrya* which has 1-nerved phyllodes, heads in elongate racemes, pentamerous flowers and very different aril. Superficially similar in several respects to *A. eremaea*, another 4-merous species, which differs most obviously in its non-reticulate phyllodes, longer peduncles, non-racemose inflorescences, free sepals and inconspicuous aril.

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



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