

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia gibsonii Maslin



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

Common Name

Gibson's Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

South-west W.A. where it is known from a single locality S of the Norseman–Hyden rd. It is common where it occurs but has a very restricted distribution.

Description

Low, spreading, somewhat straggly **shrub** typically c. 0.5 (–1) m tall and to 1.5 m diam. **Branchlets terete**, reddish brown aging light grey, sparsely to moderately muriculate by minute, red-brown, glandular trichomes at extremities. Phyllodes **oblong** to **oblong-elliptic**, **oblong-obovate**, sometimes slightly **sigmoid**, 6–13 mm long, 1.5–3 mm wide, excentrically **mucronate** with hard, \pm **pungent mucro**, **glabrous** except normally with minute, red-brown, glandular trichomes on the normally sparsely **tuberculate** main nerves and margins; **longitudinal** nerves 3, prominent, widely-spaced; **gland** obscure, 0.5–1 mm above **pulvinus**. Spikes short (5–7 mm long when dry), rather densely flowered, **sessile** or **sub-sessile**. Flowers 4-**merous**; sepals shortly united at base, **narrowly oblong** or **spathulate**, $\frac{2}{3}$ length of petals. **Pod** \pm **tightly coiled**, c. 12 mm long (unexpanded length), 2.5 mm wide, thinly **coriaceous**, **glabrous**, brown. Seeds 2–2.5 long, the **aril** large, pileiform and creamy white.

Phenology

Flowers Sept.–Oct. with seed in early Dec.

Habitat

Grows in skeletal red loam soils over greenstone, mainly on gentle rocky slopes, in shrubland dominated by *Allocasuarina campestris*. *A. globosa* and *Calothamnus quadrifidus*.

Specimens

W.A.: [localities withheld for conservation purposes] *P.G.Armstrong PA 11/577* (NSW, PERTH); *N.Gibson 6444* (AD, CANB, K, PERTH).

Notes

Related to the dissimilar-looking *A. incongesta* which is distinguished by its larger phyllodes, longer spikes which are cream-coloured and much large pods that are not coiled; see B.R. Maslin, *Nuytsia* 23: 280 (2013) for further discussion.

Conservation

Acacia gibsonii is listed as Priority One under Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora.

FOA Reference

Flora of Australia Project

Author

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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>
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