

# WATTLE

## Acacias of Australia

### *Acacia glaucoptera* Benth.



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Source: Australian Plant Image Index (dig.7510).  
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Flowers and buds. Between Ravensthorpe & Esperance, WA.  
Mary Hancock



Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.3447).  
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B.R. Maslin



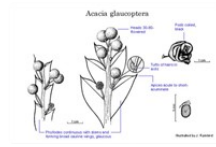
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See illustration.



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See illustration.



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

### Common Name

Clay Wattle, Flat Wattle

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Occurs from near Narrogin S to near Manypeaks (c. 35 km due NE of Albany) and E to Israelite Bay (c. 180 km due E of Ravensthorpe), southern W.A.

### Description

**Prostrate** or **erect shrub** to 1.5 m high; branches often somewhat gangling. **Branchlets straight** to slightly **flexuose**, **glabrous**. **Stipules persistent** or **caducous**. Phyllodes **continuous** with **branchlets**, bifariously **decurrent** and forming opposite wings with each one extending to the next below, usually 2.5–7 cm long and 0.6–2 cm wide, occasionally **undulate**, **coriaceous**, **glaucous**, **glabrous** except axils densely **tomentulose**; free portion of **phyllode** usually 1–4 cm long, **acute** to shortly **acuminate**, with main **nerve** evident; **gland** not prominent. Inflorescences **rudimentary** 1-headed racemes, with **axes** to 0.5 mm long; peduncles 3–18 mm long, **glabrous**, often **patent** or descending in fruit; heads **globular**, 5–6 mm diam., 30–80-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals  $\pm$ free; petals nerveless. Pods somewhat irregularly **coiled** and twisted, subterete to **compressed**, to 2 cm long, 2–3 mm wide, thinly **crustaceous**, black, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**,  $\pm$ **oblong**, 2.5–3.5 mm long; **aril** terminal,  $\pm$ conical.

### Habitat

Grows in clay and gravelly soils in woodland, tall shrubland and mallee communities.

### Specimens

W.A.: Swan R., *J.Drummond* no. 1 (BM, CGE, G, FI, OXF, P, TCD); between Hamersley R. and East Mt Barren, *B.R.Maslin* 810 (MEL, PERTH); 17 km W of Israelite Bay Telegraph Stn towards Mt Ragged, *R.A.Saffrey* 1356 (CANB, K, PERTH); c. 5 km NE of Ravensthorpe towards Esperance, *M.D.Tindale* 3805 (BRI *n.v.*, CANB *n.v.*, K *n.v.*, L *n.v.*, MEL *n.v.*, NSW, PERTH, US *n.v.*).

### Notes

Most specimens from the western extremity of the range have slightly smaller than normal phyllodes, i.e. 1.5–3 cm long, 3–6 mm wide, the free portion 5–15 mm long and normally acute but sometimes rounded as in *A. bifaria*, e.g. 9.7 km SE of Broomehill, *K.Newbey* 3586 (CANB, K, MEL, NY, PERTH).

Closely related to *A. bifaria* and vegetatively resembling *A. pterocaulon*. Inflorescence and carpological characters indicate relationships with *A. excentrica* and the *A. merrallii* group even though these species do not have bifariously winged branches.

A seemingly rare variant with very undulate phyllodes occurs N of Bremer Bay (Bremer Bay is c. 65 km SE of Jerramungup), e.g. road between Bremer Bay Rd and Gairdner R., *S.Paust* 653 (PERTH).

#### FOA Reference

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

#### 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



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Biodiversity, Conservation  
and Attractions  
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Australian  
Biological  
Resources  
Study



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