

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia gregorii F.Muell.



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
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B.R. Maslin



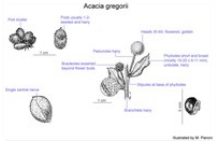
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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Gregory's Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs from Quobba N to near Wickham, including Barrow and Montebello Is., with an outlier in the Kennedy Ra., central western W.A.

Description

Dense prostrate or low-spreading shrub to 0.2–0.5 m high and to 2 m across. Branchlets pubescent to puberulous. Stipules triangular to ovate, 1.5–3.5 mm long, 1–2 mm wide, acuminate, scarious, striate. Phyllodes ovate, elliptic, oblong-elliptic or obovate, (0.6–) 1–2 cm long, (4–) 6–11 mm wide, ±undulate, with innocuous to pungent mucro, pubescent to puberulous, 1-nerved per face; lateral nerves obscure. Inflorescences simple or rudimentary 1-headed racemes with axes < 0.5 mm long with new shoots; peduncles 5–20 mm long, pubescent to puberulous, sometimes with bract near or above middle; heads globular or obloid, 7–8 mm diam., 35–60-flowered, golden; bracteoles acuminate, exserted in young buds. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united; petals 1-nerved. Pods crowded on receptacle, oblong, 0.5–1.8 cm long, 4–6 mm wide, usually 1- or 2-seeded and pilose to hirsute, thinly coriaceous-crustaceous. Seeds longitudinal to oblique, ovate, obliquely truncate adjacent to aril, 3 mm long, slightly shiny, dark brown.

Phenology

Flowers June–Aug.

Habitat

Grows in coastal sand or limestone, on plains and rocky hills, with spinifex or in heath.

Specimens

W.A.: near Mia Mia Stn, North West Coastal Hwy, *A.M.Ashby 5173* (BRI, MEL, NSW, PERTH); near old Merlinleigh HS, Kennedy Ra., *J.S.Beard 4374* (PERTH); 10 km N of Quobba Stn HS, *A.S.George 10153* (PERTH, TLF); c. 9 km N of Exmouth on road to Yardie Ck, *B.R.Maslin 4748* (CANB, MEL, PERTH).

Notes

None of the K, MEL or NSW syntypes give Walcott as collector but the former is annotated by F.Mueller as 'Gregory's Expedition'. As Walcott was a botanical collector (with Maitland Brown) on F.A.Gregory's expedition to north-western W.A. in 1861 it is likely that he collected this specimen. A second sheet of *A. gregorii* at MEL is erroneously labelled '*Acacia*. Prickly and very Rigid, not in fruit—Height 6 to 10 ft. Alluvial Valley—Hearson Island'. This label probably refers to *A. pyrifolia* and probably accounts for the Hearson Island citation in the protologue.

A variant from near Quobba (*A.S.George 10153*) differs in having glabrous, 1–3-seeded pods. Few-seeded pods occur also in *A. shuttleworthii*.

Gregory's wattle has considerable horticultural potential as an attractive groundcover in coastal areas, particularly on sandy soils.

Superficially similar to the more southerly-distributed *A. crispula* and *A. shuttleworthii*, both of which have paler yellow, fewer-flowered heads. Apparently with some affinities to *A. crassistipula*.

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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Minor edits by B.R.Maslin & J.Rogers

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



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and Attractions
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Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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