

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia hakeoides* A.Cunn. ex Benth.



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B.R. Maslin



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

## Common Name

Hakea-leaved Wattle, Western Black Wattle, Hakea Wattle and more

## Family

Fabaceae

## Distribution

Scattered in southern Australia from Clyde Hill, NE of Esperance, W.A., through southern S.A., inland Vic., and on the Great Divide, its inland slopes and adjacent plains in N.S.W., N to the Tara area, Qld; an isolated occurrence near Broken Hill, N.S.W.

## Description

Bushy **shrub** or **tree** to c. 4 m high. **Branchlets terete, glabrous**. Phyllodes narrowly **oblanceolate**, sometimes **linear**, mostly **straight**, usually 4.5–12 cm long, 3–12 mm wide, narrowed at base, **obtuse**, green, **glabrous**, 1-nerved per face; **lateral nerves longitudinally anastomosing**; **gland** normally 1–2.5 cm above **pulvinus**. Inflorescences 6–12-headed racemes; **raceme axes** mostly 1–5 cm long, **glabrous**, drying dark brown to blackish; peduncles 2–5 mm long, stout, **glabrous** or sparsely **appressed puberulous**, drying dark brown to blackish; heads **globular**, usually 20–27-flowered, bright golden; bracteoles evident in buds, with laminae  $\pm$ circular, dark brown to black and white-**fimbriolate**. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals 5/6-united. Pods usually  $\pm$ **moniliform**, to 12 cm long, 4–7 mm wide,  $\pm$ thinly **coriaceous** or **crustaceous**, very dark brown to black, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal, oblong** to **elliptic**, 5–7 mm long, dull, black; **aril clavate**.

## Habitat

Grows in a variety of soils but commonly in sand or loam, in open scrub or *Eucalyptus* woodland; in N.S.W. it sometimes occurs on rocky ranges.

## Specimens

W.A.: Parmango Rd, adjacent to Clyde Hill, *B.R.Maslin 5826* (MEXU, PERTH). S.A.: c. 10 km NE of Arno Bay, *N.N.Donner 2160* (AD, MEL). Qld: Condamine–Kogan road, c. 2 km W of Wieambilla Ck, *V.Hando 17* (PERTH). N.S.W.: Barellan Rd, 2.1 km NE of Newell Hwy near Naranderra, *R.Coveny 12016* & *P.Hind* (AD *n.v.*, B *n.v.*, CANB *n.v.*, K *n.v.*, NSW, PERTH, US *n.v.*, Z *n.v.* ). Vic.: Big Desert, *A.C.Beauglehole 38333* (MEL).

## Notes

A variant from near Eaglehawk, in the Bendigo 'Whipstick' forest, Vic., which was included under *A. hakeoides* by A.B.Court, in J.H.Willis, *Handb. Pl. Victoria* 2: 231 (1973), is recognised by its phyllodes 11–15 cm long and 3–5 mm wide, heads c. 35-flowered and pods less constricted between the seeds than normal (e.g. Moon Mines, beyond Eaglehawk, Aug. 1921, *D.J.Paton*, MEL). More or less straight-edged pods sometimes also occur in W.A. Putative natural hybrids between *A. pycnantha* and *A. williamsonii* from the Bendigo 'Whipstick' superficially resemble *A. hakeoides*.

Frequently a multistemmed shrub or small tree which produces suckers if its roots are disturbed (*vide* D.J.E.Whibley & D.E.Symon, *Acacias S. Australia* 2nd edn, 150 (1992)) and may form dense thickets.

Information on the biological and ecological features, and the utilisation potential, of this species is given in B.R.Maslin and M.W.McDonald, *AcaciaSearch: Evaluation of Acacia as a woody crop option for southern Australia*, RIRDC Publication No. 03/017, 92–96 (2004).

The phyllodes are somewhat variable in shape and size, although most commonly they are narrowly oblanceolate, 4.5–12 cm long, 5–12 mm wide, and rather abruptly narrowed to a rounded, obtuse apex. Specimens with linear phyllodes 3–4 mm wide occur scattered throughout the range (e.g. the Dubbo area, N.S.W.); a long phyllode variant from near Bendigo is noted below. The gland is normally on the lower 1/3 of the phyllode 1–2.5 cm above the pulvinus, but sometimes (especially plants from W.A.) it occurs near the middle of the phyllode c. 4.5 cm above the pulvinus. The upper margin of the phyllode is sometimes kinked at the gland.

Closely related to *A. williamsonii*. Its flowers and bracteoles are similar to those of *A. obtusata* and *A. hamiltoniana*. Similar to *A. difformis*.

## 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

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



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Study



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