

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia hemsleyi Maiden



Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.22749).
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Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.31093).
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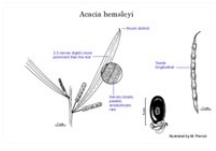
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Acacia hemsleyi occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in tropical Australia (W.A., N.T. and Qld) N of 21°S; very common in north-western Qld.

Description

Slightly **resinous shrub** or **tree** to 7 m high. Bark slightly **fissured** or shreddy. Upper **branchlets** commonly angular, otherwise **terete, glabrous**; upper ridges often resin-convoluted. **Stipules triangular**, brown, 1–2 mm long, often **persistent**. Phyllodes **linear** to very narrowly **elliptic** and **linear-oblongate**, **straight** or slightly **curved**, (4–) 5–12 (–14.5) cm long, (3–) 5–12 (–14) mm wide, **acute** to **obtuse** with a **±setose** point normally 1.5–3 mm long at apex, thinly to moderately **coriaceous, glabrous**; **longitudinal** nerves numerous, with mostly 2 or 3 slightly prominent main nerves **continuous** from base to apex and 2 or 3 secondary nerves; minor nerves 5–10 per mm, often slightly **anastomosing**; **gland** 1, to 3 mm above **pulvinus**. Inflorescences **simple**; peduncles 5–12 mm long, **glabrous**; spikes 1.5–3 cm long. Flowers 5-merous; **calyx** 0.4–1 mm long, dissected for 2/3, **ciliate** and **puberulous** to **±glabrous**; **corolla** 0.9–1.6 mm long, dissected for 1/2 or more, **±glabrous**; **ovary** densely **pubescent**. Pods **linear**, with **straight** edge or slightly constricted between seeds, 5–10 cm long, 2.5–5 mm wide, firmly **chartaceous** to thinly **coriaceous, glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, **±elliptic** to **oblong-elliptic**, 4.5–5.5 mm long, dark brown; **pleurogram** with halo; **areole** closed or almost so, paler than rest of seed.

Phenology

Flowers June–Sept.

Habitat

Grows in gravelly sands on river beds and creek banks and on sandy beaches in mangrove communities.

Specimens

W.A.: Barker R., *W.V.Fitzgerald 1535* (NSW). N.T.: Border water hole, Highland Plains Stn, *N.M.Henry 224* (DNA, NSW); Cove S of East Neck on Centre Is., Gulf of Carpentaria, *B.Rice 2042* (K, NSW). Qld: Herbert R., Rockingham Bay, 1 Aug. 1863, *J.Dallachy* (NSW); 10 km N of Mount Isa on the Barkly Hwy, *P.Ollerenshaw 1178* & *D.Kratzing* (BRI, CANB, NSW).

Notes

This species is allied to *A. plectocarpa* and *A. hammondii*, both of which have transversely arranged seeds in the wider and/or undulate pods. Seemingly rare hybrids between *A. hemsleyi* and *A. gloeotricha* occur in the Kimberley region, W.A. A toxic substance, probably saponin, has been reported in the pods of *A. hemsleyi*.

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:



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy



Department of
Biodiversity, Conservation
and Attractions
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**Australian
Biological
Resources
Study**



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