

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia howittii F. Muell.



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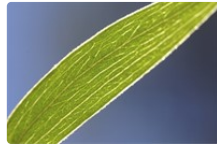
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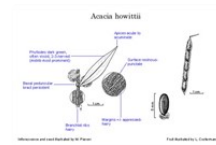
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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Howitt's Wattle, Sticky Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Confined to eastern Vic. from the upper Macalister R. area near Mt Howitt S to near Yarram and E to near Tabberabbera; collections from near Daylesford and Melbourne are presumably of cultivated origin.

Description

Graceful **shrub** or **tree** usually 3–9 m high. **Branchlets pendulous**, slender; ribs **pubescent**; **interstices** \pm **glabrous**, slightly **resinous**. Phyllodes narrowly **elliptic to lanceolate**, usually 15–25 mm long, 4–8 mm wide, **acute to acuminate**, thin, dark green, **glabrous** except margins and sometimes main nerves \pm **appressed-pubescent**, **resinous-punctate**, often **viscid** especially when young, with 2 or 3 **distant** main nerves per face and few, obscure, longitudinally **anastomosing lateral** nerves. Inflorescences **simple**, 1 or 2 per **axil**; peduncles 3–10 mm long, **pubescent**; basal **bract persistent**; heads **globular**, 12–20-flowered, pale lemon yellow. Flowers **5-merous**; sepals united. Pods **narrowly oblong to linear**, to 6 cm long, 4–5 mm wide, firmly **chartaceous** to thinly **coriaceous**, brown, **glabrous** except margins hairy. Seeds **longitudinal, oblong**, 3.5–4 mm long, somewhat shiny, dark brown; **aril** terminal.

Habitat

Grows in moist forest.

Specimens

Vic.: 14.5 km SW of Yarram P.O., *A.C.Beauglehole* 62371 (MEL); Stony Ck, near Mt Howitt, *W.Cane*, Sept. 1973 (MEL); Gidney's Track, 8 km from the Wentworth R. near Tabberabbera, 16 Sept. 1977, *K.C.Rogers* (MEL).

Notes

A member of the *A. verniciflua* complex. Putative hybrids occur between *A. howittii* and *A. stictophylla* (Dandenong variant) at Ringwood, Vic. The species is widely planted as an ornamental, especially for its pendulous foliage and profuse, perfumed flower-heads. Phyllodes are sometimes to 3.5 cm long in cultivation. A dwarf form, 'Canberry Honey Bun', was recently introduced into cultivation, *vide* Anon., *Greenworld* 12(4): 34 (1993). Another dwarf cultivar of *A. howittii*, 'Green Wave', is described in E.Brueggemeier, *Austral. Pl.* 25: 264 (2010).

FOA Reference

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

Author

Minor edits by B.R.Maslin

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



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