

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia improcera Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
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See illustration.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Known only from near Lake King (Lake King is c. 105 km due E of Lake Grace) NE to the Bremer Ra. (c. 105 km WSW of Norseman), also near Ravensthorpe and near Sheoak Hill (c. 80 km due NE of Esperance), south-western W.A.

Description

Spreading shrub 0.15–0.4 m high. Branches **striate-ribbed**, white-waxy between ribs, **hirtellous**. Branchlets short, **straight**, **rigid**, **patent** to **inclined**, **spinose**. Phyllodes obliquely **ovate** to **elliptic** or **obovate**, 3–6 mm long, 1.5–3.5 mm wide, narrowed to a short **acute** obliquely subrecurved apiculum, **hirtellous**, with scarcely prominent **midrib**, sometimes imperfectly 2-nerved; **lateral** nerves few or absent. Inflorescences **rudimentary** 1-headed racemes with **axes** < 0.5 mm long; peduncles 2.5–4 mm long, **glabrous**, **recurved** in fruit; basal bracts brown; heads **globular**, 9–11-flowered, light golden. Flowers **5-merous**; sepals irregularly united for more than half their length, 1/4–1/3 length of petals; petals **glabrous**, nerveless. Pods **rounded** over seeds and variably constricted between them, **curved**, to 3 cm long, 4–4.5 mm wide, firmly **chartaceous** to thinly **coriaceous**, dark coloured, **glabrous**; margins inrolled on one side. Seeds **longitudinal**, widely **ovate**, 3 mm long, shiny, dark brown except for yellow-brown tissue enveloping **areole** and extending to **hilum**; **aril** c. 3/4 seed length.

Habitat

Grows in clay, rocky loam or sand, in transition between heath and shrub mallee.

Specimens

W.A.: Frank Hann Natl Park, D.Monk 054 (PERTH); 4.8 km SE of Ravensthorpe, K.Newbey 1615 (PERTH); 20 km WSW of Mt Glasse, Bremer Ra., K.Newbey 5566 (PERTH).

Notes

Inflorescence and flower characters suggest that *A. improcera* is related to *A. bidentata* and its allies, differing however in its phyllode shape (phyllodes of *A. bidentata* are inequilaterally obovate to obtriangular-obdeltate). Other useful distinguishing characters are its striate, spinose, white-waxy branchlets, light golden, few-flowered heads, curved pods and bicoloured seeds. *Acacia erinacea* is similar to *A. improcera*, especially in its spinose branchlets and phyllode shape and size, but is distinguished most readily by its glabrous branchlets and phyllodes, 12–22-flowered heads and pod morphology. Although *A. improcera* superficially resembles *A. brachyclada* in phyllode shape and size the two are not closely related.

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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Minor edits by J.Rogers

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



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