

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia juncifolia Benth.



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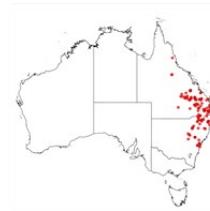
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Acacia juncifolia occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Rush-leaf Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Widespread but nowhere common from Port Clinton [formerly Port Bowen] Qld, S to the Glenbrook area, c. 50 km W of Sydney, N.S.W.; extends inland for a maximum of 550 km.

Description

Somewhat spindly **shrub** to c. 3 m high. **Branchlets** slender, **lenticellar**, dark reddish brown, **glabrous**. **Phyllodes** **filiform**, **ascending** to **erect**, **straight** to shallowly **incurved**, **terete** to **subquadrangular** or **flat**, 7–20 cm long, c. 1 mm wide, not **rigid**, **acute**, with **mucro indurate** but not sharply **pungent**, finely longitudinally **sulcate** when dry, **glabrous**; rather obscurely 4-nerved in all, 1-nerved per face when flat with **midrib** slightly raised when dry; **gland** 2–8 mm above **pulvinus**; **pulvinus** 1–2 mm long. **Inflorescences** **simple** and (fewer) **rudimentary** 1-headed racemes with **axes** 1–2 mm long intermixed, usually 1–2 per **axil**; **peduncles** 4–12 mm long, **glabrous**; **basal bract** **persistent**; heads **globular**, 20–30-flowered, pale yellow to deep buttercup yellow. Flowers 5-**merous**; **sepals** free, **linear-spathulate**. **Pods** prominently raised over seeds and slightly to moderately constricted between them, to 10 cm long, 3–4 mm wide, firmly **chartaceous** to thinly **coriaceous**, dark red-brown, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, **oblong-elliptic**, 3.5–4.5 mm long, dull, **mottled** black and yellow, ±**exarillate**.

Habitat

Grows in shallow sand derived from sandstone or less commonly from granite, in *Eucalyptus* forest or woodland; in coastal areas it occurs in deep sand in heath. The 'N. Australia' specimens cited under *A. juncifolia* by G.Bentham, *Fl. Austral. 2: 339* (1864), are *A. alleniana*.

Specimens

Qld: Blackdown Tableland, *I.B.Armitage 1399* (PERTH); Nathan Gorge, 19.2 km SSW of Cracow, *N.H.Specck 1928* (PERTH). N.S.W.: Lee's Pinch, 16 Sept. 1948, *E.F.Constable s.n.* (NSW, PERTH); 9.6 km SW of Coaldale by road to Copmanhurst, *R.Coveny 2197* (NSW, PERTH).

Notes

Flat phyllode forms of *A. juncifolia* in Qld can be confused with *A. dietrichiana*. These two species are sympatric on the northern edge of the Blackdown Tableland but *A. dietrichiana* has broader phyllodes and viscid branchlets which are, at least at their apices, vernicose when dry. In *A. juncifolia* the branchlets are normally non-viscid and dull when dry.

Acacia juncifolia, *A. alleniana*, *A. dietrichiana*, *A. jasperensis* and *A. quadrilateralis* are related by the following characters: sepals mostly free, funicle filiform and scarcely expanded into an aril or exarillate, inflorescences simple or minutely racemose, peduncles with a single, persistent basal bract, phyllodes usually very long and narrow. This '*A. juncifolia* group' appears related to the '*A. murrayana* group' whose species are distinguished by their longer racemes and phyllodes with gland-bearing apices. *Acacia calantha* herbarium specimens have sometimes been misidentified as *A. juncifolia*.

Acacia juncifolia subsp. *serpentinicola* was recognized by B.R.Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11A: 369–370 (2001) but is now treated as a distinct species, *A. serpentinicola*.

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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Revised by B.R.Maslin

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



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Western Australian Herbarium



Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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