

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia juncifolia Benth.



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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, lenticular, 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.Speck 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

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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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and Attractions
Western Australian Herbarium



Australian
Biological
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Study



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