

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia latescens Benth.



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

Common Name

Ball Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in northern N.T., extending S to Cox R.

Description

Shrub or **tree** 3–10 m high. Bark rough, brown or dark grey. **Branchlets glabrous**. Phyllodes narrowly **elliptic** to **narrowly oblong-elliptic** or **±linear**, sometimes tending **oblanceolate**, commonly **falcately recurved**, 8–26 cm long, (0.4–) 0.5–1.5 (–2) cm wide, narrowed at base, **obtuse** or **acute**, **glabrous**, with 2 **distant** main **longitudinal** nerves and openly **reticulate** between them; glands 3 or 4, with one basal and secondary ones often projecting slightly from margin; **pulvinus** 2–4 mm long. Inflorescences 4–11-headed racemes; **raceme axes** (2–) 10–30 mm long, **glabrous**; peduncles 5–17 (–20) mm long, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, 4–6 mm diam., 30–55-flowered, cream to pale yellow; bracteoles **peltate**. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals 2/3–3/4-united; petals **±glabrous**. Pods mostly **narrowly oblong** and flat, to 15 cm long, 11–20 mm wide, **coriaceous**, finely and openly **reticulate**, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal** to **oblique**, **oblong**, 8–10 mm long, dull, black; **aril** apical, small.

Habitat

Grows in sandy and lateritic soil in open forest, woodland and shrubland, rarely in coastal dune scrub.

Specimens

N.T.: East Alligator R., *M.Lazarides* 7651 (NSW, PERTH); c. 5 km N of Nathan R. Strn, *G.J.Leach* 604 (PERTH); Cobourg Peninsula, *D.Sivertsen* 811 (PERTH).

Notes

Most nearly related to *A. mimula* and *A. kenneallyi*.

As is the case with several other of the northern, tropical species, the filaments of *A. latescens* are joined irregularly to a level of about the base of the lobes of the corolla.

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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R.S.Cowan

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



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Department of
Biodiversity, Conservation
and Attractions
Western Australian Herbarium



Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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