

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia leptoclada A.Cunn. ex Benth.



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Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
See illustration.



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

Common Name

Sharp Feather Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in N.S.W. on the western side of the Northern Tablelands from Tingha S to Guyra, the North Western Slopes, and rarely North Western Plains, from Yetman area S to Barraba.

Description

Spreading **shrub** 1–3 m high; branches **pendulous**. Bark smooth, grey, brown or greenish brown. **Branchlets** \pm terete, inconspicuously ridged, blue-black, sparsely to densely **pilose** with white or fawn hairs, or sometimes **glabrous**, usually \pm **pruinose**. Young foliage-tips cream-coloured or pale **ferruginous**. Leaves **herbaceous**, dark green, rarely over 2.5 cm long, subsessile with basal **pinnae** arising immediately or to 0.5 mm above **pulvinus**, mostly with a minute **orbicular gland** at insertion of basal pair of **pinnae**; **rachis** (0.1–) 0.4–1.2 cm long, usually with 1 or 2 (twinned) minute glands at base of uppermost and occasionally other pairs of **pinnae**; **interjugal** glands absent; **pinnae** 1–5 pairs, 0.3–1.2 cm long; pinnules 5–13 pairs, **oblong** to **narrowly oblong**, 1.5–3 (–4) mm long, 0.4–1 mm wide, **glabrous** or with fine hairs on margins and beneath, broadly **rounded** or **acute** and slightly wider at apex. Inflorescences mostly in **axillary racemes**, sometimes in terminal false-panicles or single; **axes** to 4 times longer than leaves, 1–6 cm long, very **flexuose**; peduncles 3–10 (–18) mm long, **glabrous** or finely hairy. Heads 7–12 mm diam., 30–45-flowered, golden or dark yellow. Pods **straight**-sided or very slightly indented between seeds, 1.5–9.5 cm long, 5–9 mm wide, thinly or thickly **coriaceous**, black or brown, densely **pilose** to **glabrous**.

Phenology

Flowers Aug.–Oct.; fruits Nov.–Jan.

Habitat

Grows in scrubland, *Eucalyptus*–*Callitris* woodland and open forest, in stony places at high elevations, in sandy soils over granite or porphyries.

Specimens

N.S.W.: 12.4 km N of Tenterden along Moredun Dam road, *R.G.Coveny 12397*, *W.Bishop & L.Murray* (K, MEL, NSW, TL, US); 39.9 km S of Yetman en route to Warialda, *R.G.Coveny 12713*, *P.Cuneo & B.Wiecek* (AD, B, K, MEL, MO, NSW, PRC, PERTH, US); 2 km from Graman on Ashford road, *C.J.Dunn 53*, *J.Platt & R.G.Coveny* (E, MEL, NSW); Woods Reef, E of Barraba, *A.N.Rodd 4067* (B, BRI, MEL, NSW).

Notes

A species that varies, especially in indumentum, from having variably hairy branchlets, rachis, pinnae, pinnules, flower-heads and pods to being glabrous. In hairy forms there are long hairs in the flower-heads (mainly towards calyx apices and on bracteole lamina) which are initially very conspicuous and pinkish purple when in bud (appearing to change colour with age and when dried to fawn- or yellowish-hyaline).

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, J.Reid & J.Rogers

M.D.Tindale, P.G.Kodala

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



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Resources
Study



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