

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia merrickiae* Maiden & Blakely



#### Family

Fabaceae

#### Distribution

Known only from near Kellerberrin and Mukinbudin, W.A.

#### Description

Spindly, open, **glabrous**, commonly single-stemmed **shrub** 2–4 m high. **Branchlets pruinose**, roughened by raised scars of fallen phyllodes. **Phyllodes elliptic to ovate**, often shallowly concave and **reflexed**, 1.5–3.5 cm long, 7–15 mm wide,  $l:w = 1.5\text{--}3$ , **acute** to subacute, **mucronulate**, **coriaceous**, **pruinose**, **glaucous**, with slightly raised **midrib**, subobscurely finely **penninerved**. **Inflorescences axillary** and/or terminal racemes, often interspersed with some **simple**, **axillary** peduncles; **raceme axes** 10–40 mm long; peduncles 6–13 (–25) mm long, often **pruinose**; heads **globular** to slightly **obloid**, 5–6 mm diam., 45–65-flowered, light golden. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals free. Pods **linear**, **rounded** over and ±constricted between seeds, to 6 cm long, 5–6 mm wide, thinly **coriaceous**, **pruinose**. Seeds **longitudinal**, **oblong** to slightly **elliptic**, 4 mm long, dull, dark brown; **funicle** c. 1/2 encircling seed; **aril clavate**.

#### Habitat

Grows in sandy loam and clay in open woodland.

#### Specimens

W.A.: NE of Bungalla, 15 Jan. 1967, A.R.Main s.n. (PERTH); Mukinbudin area [precise locality withheld for conservation reasons], P.Roberts 16 (PERTH).

#### Notes

A member of the '*A. microbotrya* group', similar to the pruinose form of *A. leptopetala* which can be distinguished by its growth habit (dense and multistemmed), smaller flower-heads and by the phyllodes never being shallowly concave, reflexed or broadest below their middle; intermediates occur between the two taxa and also presumed hybrids. Also closely allied to *A. meisneri*.

#### Conservation

Gazetted a rare species in W.A.

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



Australian Government  
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Biodiversity, Conservation  
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Australian  
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Study



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

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