

# WATTLE

## Acacias of Australia

### *Acacia minutifolia* F.Muell.



Image courtesy of Northern Territory Herbarium



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
J. & M. Simmons



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
J. & M. Simmons



Image courtesy of Northern Territory Herbarium



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
Kym Brennan



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
See illustration.



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
See illustration.



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
See illustration.



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

### Common Name

Small-leaved Flying-saucer Bush

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Occurs in W.A. near the N.T. border between 20°S and 24°S, and in central western to central southern N.T.

### Description

**Shrub** 0.3–1 m high, 1–1.5 m wide, spreading, **resinous**. Bark  $\pm$ smooth, later longitudinally **fissured**, pale grey-brown. **Branchlets** angular towards apices, with yellow to red-brown upper portions, **scurfy**, **hirsute**; ridges not convoluted. Phyllodes **fasciculate**, usually 3 or 4 together, **sigmoid-oblong**, **compressed**, 1.2–3.1 mm long, 0.5–1.1 mm wide, **oblique** at base, with laterally **mucronulate** apex, thick, **coriaceous**; nerves inconspicuous; **pulvinus** absent or **vestigial**. Heads **globular**, c. 5–9 mm diam., yellow or pale yellow. Flowers 5-**merous**; **calyx** 0.9–1.4 mm long, dissected to 1/4–1/2, **glabrous**; **corolla** 2.1–3 mm long, dissected to 2/5–3/5, **glabrous**; **ovary** **glabrous**, minutely **tuberculate**, often capped. Pods **linear-oblongate**, flat, 3–7.5 cm long, 3.5–7.5 mm wide, **woody**, obliquely **striate**, **papillose**, **viscid**, opening elastically from apex; seed-partitions thick. Seeds **oblique**, narrowly **elliptic-oblong**, 3–5 mm long, brown; **funicle-aril** narrowly conical.

### Phenology

Flowers Apr.–Aug.

### Habitat

Grows in shallow, skeletal, red clay loam on stony lateritic plains and drainage areas, with spinifex and occasional eucalypts.

### Specimens

W.A.: 14 miles [22.4] km N of Sandy Blight–Docker R. road junction, *J.R.Maconochie* 824 (DNA, NSW); Walter James Ra., *J.R.Maconochie* 1386 (DNA, NSW). N.T.: 20 km NNE Tanami Mine, *P.K.Latz* 11833 (DNA, NSW); Tanami Mining Camp, *J.R.Maconochie* 1101 (DNA, NSW); northern foothills of Mt Palmer Ra., 24 July 1966, *J.H.Willis & A.Morrison* (MEL, NSW).

### Notes

Although *A. minutifolia* has globular inflorescences it is a connecting link between sect. *Plurinerves* and sect. *Juliflorae*, being closely allied to *A. abbreviata* which is possibly a hybrid between *A. hilliana* and *A. minutifolia*.

A specimen labelled 'Finke R., South Australia, *H.Kempe* 1879' (NSW) would now be referred to the N.T.

### 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 J.Rogers

Dr M.D.Tindale and Dr P.G.Kodela with the assistance of M.Bedward, S.J.Davies, C.Herscovitch, D.A.Keith and/or D.A.Morrison

---

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



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Energy



Department of  
Biodiversity, Conservation  
and Attractions  
Western Australian Herbarium



Australian  
Biological  
Resources  
Study



URL: <https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/wattle>  
Copyright 2018. All rights reserved.