

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia olsenii Tindale



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See illustration.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs on the Southern Tablelands of N.S.W. from Minuma Ra. S to Mother Woila, Tabletop Mtn and Tuross R.

Description

Tree 3–15 m high. Bark smooth, later sometimes slightly corrugated towards base, grey-green, dark grey, brown or black. **Branchlets** angled or vertically flattened towards apices, mostly **glabrous**, rarely minutely hairy along non-prominent ridges, **pruinose**. Young foliage-tips brownish green or cream-coloured. Leaves dark green; **petiole** above **pulvinus** 1.3–3.5 cm long, vertically flattened, **glabrous** or sometimes with sparse short white hairs, bluish **glaucous**, with 1 (rarely 2) prominent spherical usually **glabrous gland(s)** at or near base of lowest pair of **pinnae**, rarely absent; **rachis** 4.5–10 cm long, \pm vertically flattened, usually with a spherical **gland** at base of all pairs of **pinnae**, often also with 1–4 smaller often **contiguous interjugal** glands between some pairs of **pinnae**; **pinnae** 9–17 pairs, 3.5–8.3 cm long; pinnules 50–106 pairs, \pm **oblong** to **cultrate**, mostly 1–2.2 mm long and 0.4–0.5 mm wide, ciliolate otherwise **glabrous**, subacute. Inflorescences in **axillary** or terminal false-panicles; peduncles 2–6 mm long, **glabrous**. Heads 7–12-flowered, deep yellow. Pods usually slightly constricted between seeds, 2.5–12 cm long, 6–9 (–12) mm wide, thinly **coriaceous**, dark brown or blackish, bluish **pruinose**, **glabrous**; margin \pm prominent.

Phenology

Flowers May.

Habitat

Often grows in stands usually within 50 m of creeks, on very steep, dry, rocky hillsides facing NW, at heads of gullies and tops of knife-edge ridges, in open forest, on scree, mostly on slate or shale, sometimes in alluvial sands.

Specimens

N.S.W.: Mother Woila Mtn, 26 Apr. 1980, *J.Benson* (NSW); E of Big Badja Hill, *M.D.Crisp 2377, D.J.Cummings & A.Tyrrel* (CANB, NSW); NW face of Mother Woila Peak, *F.Grossbechler CBG817372* (CANB, NSW); Mother Woila, *I.Olsen 3094* (CANB, K, L, MEL, NSW, TL, UC, US, Z); Razorback ridge approach to Mother Woila, *I.Olsen 3091* (AD, PERTH).

Notes

Acacia stoyi is very closely allied to *A. olsenii* but differs in its heads cream-coloured or pale yellow and 14–20-flowered, often less numerous pairs of pinnules and margins of the pinnules with fewer white cilia. There is a considerable disjunction in the distribution of these two species, as *A. olsenii* occurs in south-eastern N.S.W., and *A. stoyi* is endemic to Blackdown Tableland, Qld.

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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Minor edits by B.R.Maslin & J.Reid

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



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