

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia oncinocarpa Benth.



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See illustration.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in tropical N.T., N of 16°S; common in Arnhem Land.

Description

Shrub or tree 0.5–5 m high, prostrate in exposed coastal areas, rounded, resinous. Bark smooth or flaky, grey to brown. Branchlets angular towards apices, with reddish brown granules. Phyllodes narrowly elliptic to elliptic or sometimes narrowly oblanceolate, straight or curved, mostly 6–15 cm long, (4–) 7–29 mm wide, chartaceous to subcoriaceous, glabrous or hoary, with 3–5 prominent longitudinal nerves of which lower 2 not often confluent with margin near base, sometimes 2 or 3 semiprominent parallel nerves; minor nerves 3–6 per mm, sometimes sparingly anastomosing; gland 1, ±inconspicuous, 2–6 (–10) mm above pulvinus. Spikes up to 5 in axils, 2.5–8 cm long, loosely flowered, pale yellow to cream-coloured. Flowers 5-merous, rarely 4-merous, delicate; calyx membranous, 0.4–0.6 mm long, dissected to 1/5–1/3, glabrous or with reddish brown granules towards sepal apices; corolla 0.9–1.1 mm long, dissected to 1/2–2/3, glabrous; ovary glabrous. Pods erect, very narrowly oblanceolate to linear, basally narrowed, flat, straight-sided, 5–11 cm long, 4–10 mm wide, woody, glabrous, obliquely reticulately nerved, curling upwards from apex after dehiscence; seed partitions and margins thick. Seeds oblique, oblong-elliptic, 4–7 mm long, brown; areole narrowly oblong, open; funicle-aril narrowly conical.

Phenology

Flowers Mar.–Aug.

Habitat

Grows in red or grey sand or loam, often gravelly soil, on sandstone, granite or laterite, in eucalypt or *Melaleuca* woodland, forest or shrubland, often in coastal sand dune or cliff areas.

Specimens

N.T.: Melville Is., *C.Dunlop* 3053 (BRI, DNA, NSW); E of Oenpelli, Nimburrah road, *R.Pullen* 9505 (CANB, MEL); 41 km S of Katherine, King R. crossing, *M.D.Tindale* 6065 & *C.Dunlop* (BRI, CANB, K, NSW, UNSW, Z).

Notes

A variable species in need of critical revision. Related to *A. oligoneura* which has mostly narrowly oblanceolate phyllodes (broadest above middle) with an open reticulate nervation, and brighter yellow inflorescences. Both species have similar flowers and reddish brown granules on their branchlets, phyllodes, bracteole laminae and sepal apices. Also seemingly related to *synantha*.

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:



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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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