

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia pteraneura* Maslin & J.E.Reid



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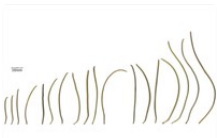
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*Acacia pteraneura* occurrence map.  
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living  
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

## Family

Fabaceae

## Distribution

Extends from near Gascoyne Junction S to Yalgoo in W.A., east to N.T. and S.A. (distribution in latter two states not properly assessed); in W.A. it is most common in the Murchison IBRA Bioregion.

## Description

**Shrub** to 3 m high or **tree** to 6 (–8) m, sometimes with pseudo-conifer or rarely conifer growth form, trunks and main branches **sub-straight** to crooked. **Branchlets** often dark grey, hoary between the commonly red-brown, **resinous** or non-**resinous** ribs at extremities, soon **glabrous**, the resin translucent and normally forming a  $\pm$ thin veneer; new shoots **resinous**, normally with a **dense** layer of dark-coloured glandular hairlets. Phyllodes mostly variously **curved** to **sinuous** or **sigmoid**, **terete** to subterete, rarely a few flat, 40–80 (–100) mm long, often shorter and in clusters of 2–5 on juvenile plants, 0.8–1.2 (–1.5) mm wide, normally green to greyish green, finely **striate** by **longitudinal** nerves with silvery **appressed** hairs between them (most obvious on young phyllodes); **gland** mostly 2–10 mm above the **pulvinus**, **phyllode** often swollen and/or kinked at the **gland**. Inflorescences **simple**; peduncles 7–15 mm long, with **appressed** white hairs and normally red-brown glandular hairlets; spikes 10–30 mm long. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals  $\pm$ free, **linear** to **narrowly oblong** and expanded at apex. Pods mostly **oblong** to **narrowly oblong**, flat, (10–

15–40 mm long, usually 8–15 mm wide including wings, thinly **coriaceous**, openly **reticulate**, brown to greyish brown or reddish brown, **glabrous** or with minute, **appressed** hairs; marginal **wing** 1–3 (–3.5) mm wide, commonly **undulate**. Seeds normally **oblique**, 4–6 mm long, 2–3.5 mm wide; **aril** white or pale yellow.

### Phenology

Flowering peaks in Apr.–May and July–Sept.

### Habitat

Grows in a variety of habitats but commonly found on stony plains in red-brown sand, sandy loam, clay or sandy clay loam, often over hardpan; in open mixed Mulga shrubland or low woodland communities.

### Specimens

W.A.: 23 miles [37 km] N of Warburton Mission, *A.S.George 8191* (PERTH: pods narrower than normal); 29.5 km N of Meekatharra on Great Northern Hwy to Newman, *B.R.Maslin 8007* (CANB, PERTH: coniferous growth form); Milly Milly Stn near intersection of Erong Springs Rd, 9.5 km W of Milly Milly Homestead, 0.3 km N of Byro-Milly Milly Rd, *B.R.Maslin, J.Miller & J.E.Reid BRM 9158* (AD, BRI, PERTH). N.T.: 49 km by rd W from Finke, *S.G.Pearson SGP 260* (AD). S.A.: 9.4 km SE from Maryinna Hill (5.2 km direct ESE of Oompeinna Hill), *P.J.Lang & H.P.Vonow BS23-24603* (AD).

### Notes

See under *A. paraneura* for note on relationship with *A. pteraneura*.

Plants regarded as typical *A. pteraneura* have pods that are normally 8–15 mm wide with wings 1–3 mm wide, and phyllodes with the gland normally located 2–10 mm above the pulvinus. There are, however, some specimens with generally narrower pods (5–8 mm wide, with wings c. 1 mm wide) and with the gland (0–) 1–4 mm above the pulvinus. See B.R.Maslin & J.E.Reid, *Nuytsia* 22(4): 251–259 (2012), for discussion.

A member of the '*A. aneura* group' (Mulga) most closely related to *A. paraneura* and *A. fuscaneura* (see these species for differences); also close to *A. aneura* which is most reliably distinguished by its flat phyllodes. Sometimes sympatric with *A. aptaneura* and terete phyllode forms of that species can resemble *A. pteraneura* but are distinguished by their non-winged pods and their phyllodes that are often straighter, less obviously swollen or kinked at the gland which is normally closer to the pulvinus, see B.R.Maslin & J.E.Reid, *loc. cit.*, for further discussion. Putatively hybridizes with *A. incurvaneura*, *A. aptaneura*, *A. fuscaneura* and *A. macraneura*, see B.R.Maslin & J.E.Reid, *loc. cit.*, for discussion.

Specimens of this species were cited by L.Pedley, *Fl. Australia* 11B: (2001), under both *A. aneura* var. *microcarpa* (= *A. incurvaneura*, viz. *A.S.George 8191* and *S.J. Forbes 1546*) and *A. aneura* var. *tenuis* (= *A. aptaneura*, viz. *B.R. Maslin 7074*). While the type of *A. aneura* var. *conifera* is referable to *A. pteraneura*, further study is needed of the distinctive conifer and pseudo-conifer growth forms that occur in this and other species of the Mulga group, see B.R.Maslin & J.E.Reid, *loc. cit.*, for discussion.

### 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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Study



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