

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

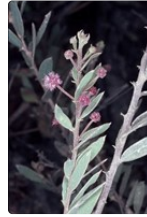
### *Acacia purpureopetala* F.M.Bailey



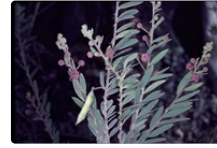
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See illustration.



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See illustration.



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

### Common Name

Purple Wattle

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

A rare species confined to the Herberton region, Qld.

### Description

Sprawling  $\pm$ prostrate shrub to 0.5 m high; new growth purplish. Branchlets puberulous to pubescent. Stipules 2–3 mm long, normally recurved. Phyllodes slightly asymmetric, narrowly oblong-elliptic, sometimes oblanceolate, 15–35 mm long, 4–6 mm wide, l:w = 4–7, excentrically mucronate, with 0.5–2 mm long mucro, coriaceous, finely puberulous with hairs often confined to margins when old; midrib and margins prominent; lateral nerves scarcely evident; gland 1–6 mm above pulvinus. Inflorescences simple, 1 per axil; peduncles 7–15 mm long, puberulous, ebracteate at base, sometimes with a single bract above middle; heads globular, 15–20-flowered, mauve-pink. Flowers 5-merous; sepals  $\pm$ free. Pods narrowly oblong to elliptic, to 30 mm long, 4–7 mm wide, normally 1–3-seeded, thinly coriaceous-crustaceous, brown, glabrous or subglabrous. Seeds longitudinal, circular to widely elliptic, compressed, 4–5 mm long, exarillate; funicle filiform.

### Phenology

Flowers sporadically, though not prolifically, throughout most of the year but main flush in June–July.

### Habitat

Grows on steep rocky slopes in *Eucalyptus* woodland; often colonises disused mine sites.

### Specimens

Qld: near Irvinebank, *J.Armstrong 1024 & D.F.Blaxell* (BRI, CANB, NSW); Stannary Hills, *P.Hind 1047 & C.K.Ingram* (NSW, PERTH).

### Notes

Seemingly related to *A. hispidula* which has pale yellow to nearly white heads, 3/4-united sepals and phyllodes that are obviously tuberculate, at least on their abaxial margins.

Unique among the Australian acacias in having consistently mauve-pink flowers.

### 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 B.R.Maslin

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



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Energy



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Biodiversity, Conservation  
and Attractions  
Western Australian Herbarium



Australian  
Biological  
Resources  
Study



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