

# WATTLE

## Acacias of Australia

### *Acacia redolens* Maslin



Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.10048).  
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B.R. Maslin



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See illustration.



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

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Occurs from Ongerup E to near Ravensthorpe but also found near Newdegate and Pingrup., south-western W.A.

### Description

Spreading, **prostrate** to low-domed **shrub** normally 0.5–1.5 (–2) m high, rarely an **erect shrub** to 3 (–4) m high. **Branchlets** resin-ribbed, hoary around **phyllode** bases and often between ribs. Phyllodes normally **oblancoolate** to **narrowly oblong-oblancoolate**, **straight** to shallowly **incurved**, 2.5–7 cm long, (2–) 5–10 (–20) mm wide, **rounded** or **obtuse**, distinctively vanilla-scented, grey-green or **glaucous**, **glabrous** except **appressed-puberulous** at base, with many prominent **distant resinous** nerves and **reticulate** or not in between, 3- or 4-nerved on very narrow phyllodes; **gland** at **distal** end of **pulvinus**. Inflorescences 2–6-headed racemes; **raceme axes** usually 2.5–10 mm long, normally **tomentose** or **appressed-puberulous** and **resinous**; peduncles 2–5.5 mm long, with **indumentum** as on **raceme axes**; heads **globular**, 3–5 mm diam., densely 20–30-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals ±free. Pods narrowly **linear**, **arcuate**, to 6 cm long, 2–3.5 mm wide, thinly **coriaceous**, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, narrowly **elliptic-oblong**, 3.5–4 mm long, glossy, dark brown; **aril** cream-white.

### Habitat

Found in slightly saline or alkaline loam, clay or clay loam, often with Salmon Gums (*Eucalyptus salmonophloia*) or Stocking Gum (*E. kondinensis*) and frequently around margins of salt lakes.

### Specimens

W.A.: 9.6 km E of Ravensthorpe towards Esperance, *B.R.Maslin 2573* (CANB, K, L, MEL, PERTH); 1.6 km W of Lake Bryde, *K.Newbey 3675* (PERTH); c. 10 km W of Fitzgerald R. near S coast, *P.G.Wilson 10151* (PERTH).

### Notes

Very closely related to *A. bartlei*; also to *A. trineura* from eastern Australia which has ±straight pods and dark green phyllodes with generally fewer longitudinal nerves of which only 1–3 extend to the apical point (many nerves extending to the apex in *A. redolens*). Superficially similar to *A. cyclops* which is most readily distinguished by its larger flower-heads, pods and seeds, and the seeds with a distinctive encircling red or orange funicle/aril. Also similar to *A. warramaba*.

The '*A. ixiophylla*' referred to by B.R.Maslin in the protologue of *A. redolens* was subsequently described as *A. verrucula*.

The species has been utilised in the U.S.A. for median strip planting and for reclamation of degraded sites; it is also grown very well in windy coastal situations under extreme conditions, *vide* B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* 1: 327 (1974).

A rare variant with unusually narrow (2–3 mm wide), linear phyllodes occurs around Pingrup (e.g. *W.E.Blackall 3034*, PERTH). However, the plants with narrow phyllodes from near Esperance that were noted by R.S.Cowan & B.R.Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11B: 44 (2001), are now described as *A. bartlei*. Racemes on cultivated specimens can reach 20 mm long. *Acacia redolens* typically occurs as prostrate, domed shrubs 0.5–1.5 (–2) m tall and spreading to 5 m or more across; they rarely develop as erect shrubs to 3 (–4) m tall, the tallest of which are found in the lower reaches of the Fitzgerald R. c. 70 km due SE of Ravensthorpe.

### 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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