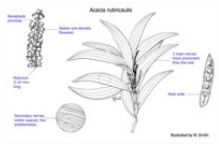


# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia rubricaulis* Pedley



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
See illustration.



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

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Restricted to the eastern coast of Cape York Pen., Qld, between about 11° and 14°S.

### Description

**Shrub** 2.5–6 m high. **Branchlets** acutely angled towards apex, often appearing polished when dry, dark red, stout, **glabrous**. New shoots and **distal** ends of developing phyllodes dark reddish brown. Phyllodes **ovate** or **elliptic**, **straight** and **dimidiate** or slightly **falcate**, 13.5–19 cm long, 22–42 mm wide, **glabrous**, 3 **longitudinal** nerves more prominent than the rest, free to the base or running together in the middle of the **phyllode**, secondary **longitudinal** widely spaced (1–1.5 mm apart) and openly and longitudinally **anastomosing**; **gland** usually inconspicuous, 0–5 mm above **orifice** small; **pulvinus** (5–) 7–9 (–12) mm long, dark red, polished. Inflorescences **simple**, 2 per **axil**; spikes 40–60 (–100) mm long, **sub-densely** flowered; **receptacle** variably **pruinose**, **glabrous**; peduncles 3–10 mm long, **glabrous**. Flowers 5-**merous**, perianth parts rather **coriaceous**; **calyx** **gamosepalous**, **pruinose**, very shortly and sinuately lobed. Pods (immature) **narrowly oblong**, not constricted between seeds, 5–6 cm long, 7–8 mm wide, possibly to 10 mm when mature, flat, **glabrous**, obscurely nerved. Seeds (extremely immature) **longitudinal**, **funicle** thickened, expanded into an **aril**.

### Habitat

Grows in sand on dune fields, degraded sand dunes and creek banks. Has been recorded once from the margin of rainforest.

### Specimens

Qld: S of Harmer Ck, 37 km E of "Nixon" HS, *J.R.Clarkson 9133 & V.J.Neldner* (BRI, MBA n.v., PERTH n.v.); 10 km N of mouth of Olive R., *J.R.Clarkson 9913 & V.J.Neldner* (BRI, K n.v., PERTH n.v.); Round Point, Shelburne Bay, *A.Gunness AG1923* (BRI).

### Notes

According to L.Pedley (*Austrobaileya* 7(2): 354–356 (2006)) *A. rubricaulis* is a distinctive plant with obscure relationships. In B.R.Maslin (coordinator), *WATTLE Acacias of Australia* CD-ROM (2001) it keys to a group of species including *A. crassa*, *A. cowleana* and *A. lamprocarpa* but its widely spaced secondary nerves point to a relationship with *A. leptocarpa*. The stout, red, strongly angular, polished branchlets, pruinose spike-rachis, thick perianth parts and pod dimensions clearly distinguish it from all other species. Its pods resemble those of an undescribed Qld species, *Acacia* sp. (Castletower *N.Gibson* TOI345), which, however, has close parallel nerves similar to those of *A. julifera* Benth.

### 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:



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