

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia sibilans Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
B.R. Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
B.R. Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
B.R. Maslin



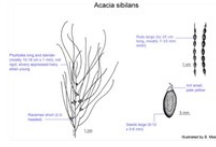
Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
B.R. Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
B.R. Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
B.R. Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
See illustration.



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

Common Name

Whispering Myall

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Northwest W.A. mainly in the Gascoyne and upper Murchison districts where it extends from Shark Bay E to near Mileura Stn; there are disjunct occurrences in the Pilbara (c. 500 km north of Mileura) where it occurs on Roy Hill Stn and Ethel Creek Stn.

Description

Silvery spreading tree 3–7 (–12) m high; branches often slightly crooked, twisted and spreading \pm horizontally. Bark fibrous, grey. Branchlets appressed-puberulous, glabrescent. Phyllodes ascending to erect, filiform, straight to shallowly curved to sinuous, terete, (8-) 10–18 cm long, 0.8–1 mm diam., with curved to uncinatate apex, not rigid, silvery appressed-puberulous early but hairs confined to between nerves with age, finely multistriate. Inflorescences 2- or 3-headed racemes; raceme axes 0.5–1.5 mm long; peduncles 5–12 mm long, silvery appressed-puberulous; heads globular, 5 mm diam., 26–28-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals free; petals pale yellow or silvery appressed-puberulous. Pods pendulous, moniliform, to 20 cm long, (3-) 7–10 mm wide, \pm crustaceous, finely longitudinally nerved, hoary when young, ageing glabrescent except between seeds. Seeds longitudinal, compressed-elliptic, 9–12 mm long, dull, dark brown; aril small, pale yellow.

Phenology

Flowers erratically, possibly in response to heavy rains.

Habitat

Grows on plains and alluvial flats in shallow loam and sand over limestone, in low chenopodiaceous shrubland and, further inland, in *Acacia* shrubland.

Specimens

W.A.: 26.5 km N of Tropic of Capricorn beside North West Coastal Hwy, 28 Nov. 1983, *W.Edgecombe* (PERTH); c. 15 km S of Roy Hill Stn on Great Northern Hwy, *B.R.Maslin* 5271 (BRI, CANB, K, PERTH); Austin Downs Stn near Cue, *A.A.Mitchell* 902 (BRI, MEL, NY, PERTH).

Notes

An attractive, long-lived, but probably slow growing, tree with potential for amenity plantings.

Closely related to *A. auripila*. Also related to *A. papyrocarpa*, which has chartaceous, flat pods with smaller seeds, smaller flower-heads and generally shorter, straighter, subterete to flat phyllodes. Sometimes resembling *A. coriacea* and *A. sericophylla* which are readily distinguished by their united sepals, large, bright orange seed arils and normally flat, broader phyllodes.

A seemingly uncommon variant with narrow pods (3–5 mm wide) occurs near Giles Point in the Pilbara (e.g. *E.Thoma* 1443, PERTH) and in the Murchison/Ashburton district further south; it requires further study.

FOA Reference

Data derived from *Flora of Australia* Volumes 11A (2001), 11B (2001) and 12 (1998), products of ABRS, ©Commonwealth of Australia

Author

R.S.Cowan

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



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy



Department of
Biodiversity, Conservation
and Attractions
Western Australian Herbarium



Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



URL: <https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/wattle>
Copyright 2018. All rights reserved.