

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia simmonsiana* O'Leary & Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
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B.R. Maslin



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See illustration.



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

### Common Name

Simmons' Wattle

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Discontinuous in south-eastern Australia where it occurs from Kangaroo Is., southern Lofty and lower Murray regions in S.A., to Little and Big Deserts in Vic., and near West Wyalong in N.S.W. The Eyre Penin. occurrence of this species noted by B.R.Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11A: 577 (2001) is now considered erroneous.

### Description

Bushy, spreading shrub to 2 m high. Branchlets angled apically, soon terete and ribbed, glabrous. New shoots glabrous. Stipules 2–4 (–5) mm long, brittle. Phyllodes mostly oblanceolate, straight to shallowly incurved, (1.2–) 1.4–4.5 (–7.2) cm long, (2–) 3–9 (–15) mm wide, narrowed at apex to a small, straight to hooked, innocuous to coarsely pungent point, coriaceous, glabrous, green to grey-green, 1-nerved per face; gland normally single, occasionally absent or 2, (2–) 5–16 (–20) mm above pulvinus. Inflorescences simple and commonly 2 per axil, sometimes rudimentary 1- or 2-headed racemes with axes to 1 mm long; peduncles (2–) 4–10 mm long, glabrous; heads globular, 4–5 mm diam. (dry), (16–) 20–34 (–36)-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals free. Pods ± terete, not or scarcely constricted between the seeds, strongly curved, to 7 cm long, 1.5–4 mm wide, firmly chartaceous to thinly crustaceous, black. Seeds longitudinal, 3–4 mm long; aril terminal, conical, creamy white.

### Phenology

Flowers Aug.–Oct.

### Habitat

Favours shallow depressions in undulating country on loam over limestone or ironstone, in mallee and Peppermint Box woodland.

### Specimens

S.A.: Lower Murray R. on L. Alexandrina, c. 15 km to Milang, *N.Gemmell* 159 (AD); Hundred Line Rd, Kangaroo Is., *M.C.O'Leary* 2371 (AD, PERTH). N.S.W.: 4.8 km NE of West Wyalong, *R.Coveny* 2376 (NSW, PERTH). Vic.: Little Desert, Sept. 1930, *H.B.Williamson* s.n. (MEL).

### Notes

Most closely related to the more northerly distributed *A. halliana* which differs most obviously in its normally hairy branchlets and new shoots, generally larger and straight to shallowly recurved phyllodes, larger and more densely flowered heads and pods that are clearly constricted between seeds, see M.O'Leary & B.R.Maslin (*J. Adelaide Bot. Gard.* 20: 9 (2002)) for further discussion. Related also to *A. merrallii*, which differs in its thicker, often shorter and broader phyllodes and orange or bright yellow arils enclosing to 1/3 of seed, and seemingly also to the W.A. endemic *A. mutabilis* which differs by the adaxial margin of its phyllodes being 2-nerved in the basal portion of the phyllode, see M.O'Leary & B.R.Maslin (*J. Adelaide Bot. Gard.* 20: 9 (2002)) for further discussion. Superficially resembles *A. × grayana*.

The Wuerth paralectotype of *A. iteaphylla* var. *latifolia* collected from the Murray R. is *A. simmonsiana*, see B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* 12: 353 (1999). The concept of *A. microcarpa* var. *linearis* (= *A. × grayana*) by J.H.Willis, *Victorian Naturalist* 73: 156 (1957), was based in part on a specimen of *A. simmonsiana*, *vide* B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* 6: 39 (1987).

This species was noted as Variant 2 under *A. halliana* by B.R.Maslin in *Fl. Australia* 11A: 577 (2001).

### FOA Reference

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

### Author

B.R.Maslin, J.Reid

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  
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Study



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