

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia subulata Bonpl.



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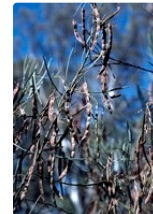
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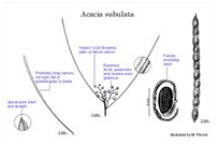
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Acacia subulata occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Awl-leaf Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs on the tablelands and western slopes of the Great Divide from Lithgow N to Warialda and W to the plains near Pilliga, N.S.W. G.M.Cunningham *et al.*, *PL W New South Wales* 373 (1981), record *A. subulata* from the Rankins Springs–Griffith area, but this is probably based on a mis-identification of *A. calamifolia*.

Description

Rather weak **shrub** or **tree** 2–4 m high. **Branchlets glabrous**. Phyllodes **filiform** to narrowly **linear**, slender, **straight** to shallowly **incurved**, flat or **quadrangular** to **±terete**, (5–) 6–14 (–17) cm long, 0.8–2 mm wide, **acute**, flexible, green to subglaucescent, **glabrous**, often longitudinally wrinkled when dry, finely 4-nerved in all, 1-nerved per face when flat. Inflorescences **racemose**; **raceme axes** normally 1–3 cm long, slender, **glabrous**; peduncles 3–6 mm long, slender, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, 12–20-flowered, pale yellow or bright lemon yellow; bracteoles **peltate**, with **±circular** laminae white- or pale yellow-**fimbriolate**. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals c. 5/6-united. Pods **linear**, **straight-edged** or constricted between seeds, to c. 18 cm long, 5–8 mm wide, firmly **chartaceous** to thinly **coriaceous**, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, **oblong** to **elliptic**, 5–7 mm long, slightly shiny, black; **funicle** encircling seed in a single or double fold, red-brown to black; **aril clavate**.

Habitat

Grows in sand or sandy loam, often along creeks.

Specimens

N.S.W.: Crown Ck, Capertee Valley, c. 40.2 km N of Lithgow, *E.F.Constable 7192* (NSW, PERTH); Pilliga Scrub, *E.C.Rolls 65* (NSW); 5.5 km E of Bylong on the road to Muswellbrook, *B.R.Maslin 5914* (MEXU, NSW, PERTH); Warialda, *T.Tame 10/87* (PERTH).

Notes

A member of the '*A. microbotrya* group', closely allied to the more westerly-distributed *A. calamifolia* which is distinguished especially by its phyllodes which are

narrowed to delicate, characteristically curved points (in *A. subulata* the phyllodes end in short, ±straight, erect points). Also, in *A. calamifolia* the phyllode nerves are less pronounced (often ±impressed) than those of *A. subulata* and the heads are 25–40-flowered. The Macquarie R., [C.]Fraser, specimen cited by G.Bentham, *Fl. Austral.* 2: 339 (1864) under *A. calamifolia* is *A. subulata*.

The phyllodes are commonly quadrangular to ±terete in section, but in the Merriwa–Gungul–Murrumbo area and sometimes Narrabri–Pilliga area they are flat. This flat-phyllode form is common in cultivation where it may reach 7 m high.

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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Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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