

# WATTLE

## Acacias of Australia

### *Acacia synchronicia* Maslin



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.  
Published at: [www.worldwidewattle.com](http://www.worldwidewattle.com)  
B.R. Maslin



Source: Australian Plant Image Index (dig:15818).  
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Image courtesy of Northern Territory Herbarium



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J. Maslin



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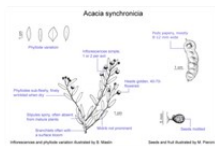
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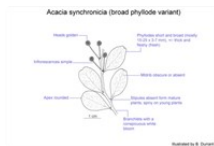
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See illustration.



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

### Common Name

Bardi Bush, Bramble Wattle

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Common from Shark Bay N to Port Hedland and E to Rudall R., and in the southern Kimberleys, with scattered occurrences in the Cue–Yalgoo area, W.A.; also one collection from near Rabbit Flat Roadhouse, N.T., c. 100 km E of W.A. border.

### Description

Somewhat straggly, openly branched, **glabrous shrub** or **tree** 1.5–4 (–6) m high, upper branches commonly bronze-coloured. **Branchlets** grey to light brown or greenish, often **pruinose**. **Stipules spinose**, commonly absent or infrequent on mature plants, 3–10 mm long. **Phyllodes** variable, **elliptic** to narrowly **elliptic**, **ovate-elliptic** or **oblong-oblongate**, infrequently **narrowly oblong**, 15–25 (–35) mm long, 3–7 (–11) mm wide, l:w = (1.5–) 3–7, normally grey-green to **glaucous**, subfleshy, smooth or finely wrinkled when dry; **midrib** and **lateral** nerves obscure or absent; **gland** 0–2 mm above **pulvinus**, rather prominent (normally 0.7–1.3 x 0.5–1 mm). **Inflorescences simple**, 1 or 2 per **axil**, initiated synchronously with phyllodes on new shoots; racemes rare; peduncles 1–2 cm long, with **caducous bract** near or above middle; heads **globular**, 40–70-flowered, golden. **Flowers 5-merous**; sepals free, narrowly **spathulate**. **Pods oblong** to **narrowly oblong**, to 4–5 cm long, (7–) 8–

12 (–14) mm wide, chartaceous, flat but rounded over seeds along midline. Seeds transverse, ovate to elliptic, usually 4–5 mm long, ± dull, mottled black and yellow or light brown; funicle short, thick, aril small.

### Phenology

Flowers mostly from Sept.–Dec.

### Habitat

Grows along watercourses and on alluvial flats, mostly in shrubland. Sometimes a noteworthy nuisance plant and labelled a woody weed in parts of the Pilbara where it can form dense thickets which are impenetrable to livestock, see B.R.Maslin *et al.*, *Wattles of the Pilbara* CD-ROM (2010) for discussion on utilization of this species.

### Specimens

W.A.: 93 km from Halls Ck on road to Fitzroy Crossing, *I.B.Amitage 166* (PERTH); near Mindi Springs, Hamersley Ra. Natl Park, *C.Dawe 093* (BRI, K, PERTH); 57.5 km SE of Yalgoo towards Paynes Find, *B.R.Maslin 4253* (PERTH); 42 km S of Onslow on Ashburton R., *D.G.White 630805* (PERTH). N.T.: 3 km NW of Rabbit Flat, on Tanami Track [Rd], *M.Hancock 459* (DNA, NSW, PERTH).

### Notes

A member of the '*A. victoriae* group', most closely related to *A. robeorum* which was treated as a narrow phyllode variant of *A. synchronicia* by B.R.Maslin in *Fl. Australia* 11A: 379 (2001). *Acacia synchronicia* was included in *A. victoriae* which differs especially in its normally racemose inflorescences with pale lemon-yellow heads of 15–30 flowers, and its phyllodes which are often longer with a generally smaller gland and more prominent midrib. A few Kimberley specimens are possibly intermediate between the two species.

Some plants from the eastern Pilbara (Marble S to Ethel Creek Stn) are generally more pruinose than those of typical *A. synchronicia* and also have broader than normal phyllodes (i.e. 8–10 mm wide with l:w = 2–3, compared with 3–7 mm wide with l:w = 3–7) (e.g. 6 km S of Nullagine on Great Northern Hwy, *B.R.Maslin 5267*, PERTH). The taxonomic status of this entity requires further study. It was called *Acacia synchronicia* (broad phyllode variant) in B.R.Maslin *et al.*, *Wattles of the Pilbara* CD-ROM (2010), but is currently known under the phrase name, *Acacia* sp. Ripon Hills (*B.R. Maslin 8460*). The typical and broad phyllode forms of *A. synchronicia* are sometimes sympatric and intermediates appear to occur. The broad phyllode form is superficially similar to *A. glaucocaesia* which is distinguished by its predominantly racemose inflorescences, paler yellow heads and more thinly textured phyllodes with a smaller basal gland.

### 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

Revised by B.R.Maslin

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>  
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