

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia terminalis (Salisb.) J.F.Macbr.



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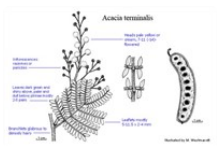
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Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com
See illustration.



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

Common Name

Sunshine Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Widely distributed in south-eastern Australia on the coast and adjacent tablelands, from northern N.S.W. to Tas. Grows in heath, woodland and forest, in a range of soil types and topography, often in sandy soils on sandstone.

Description

Variable slender or spreading **shrub** or occasionally small **tree** to 6 m high. Bark smooth, grey or brown. **Branchlets** angled, brown, reddish brown or blackish, **glabrous** to densely **pubescent**, with low to distinctly raised **longitudinal** ridges. Young foliage-tips reddish or greenish brown, **resinous**. Leaves: **petiole** 0.7–4.3 cm long, **glabrous** to densely **pubescent**, with a small or prominent **gland** just below to 1/2 way down from basal pair of **pinnae**; **rachis** 0.7–9.5 cm long, sometimes absent, **glabrous** to densely **pubescent**, eglandular or with a **gland** at base of terminal pair of **pinnae**, **interjugary** glands absent; **pinnae** 1–8 pairs, 1.3–9 cm long; pinnules prominently **discolorous**, dark green and shiny above, paler and dull below, 5–21 pairs, mostly not overlapping or touching, mostly **oblong** to **narrowly oblong**, **elliptic** to **narrowly elliptic** or **narrowly ovate** to **lanceolate**, 1.9–18 mm long, 0.9–5.7 mm wide, ±flat to slightly **recurved**, **glabrous** or **ciliate**, with midnerve prominent

and apex mostly **acute** to **acuminate**. Inflorescences in **axillary** or terminal racemes or false-panicles. Heads 5–14-flowered, cream-coloured, pale yellow or golden yellow, rarely pink. Pods **straight** or **curved**, to 10 cm long, 12–19 mm wide, **coriaceous**, purplish, blackish or reddish brown, with minor transverse nerves, often darker and rough over seeds, **glabrous**; margins paler, prominent.

Phenology

Flowers Feb.–Oct.; fruits Oct.–Feb.

Habitat

Grows in heath, woodland and forest, in a range of soil types and topography, often in sandy soils on sandstone.

Notes

This highly variable species is currently under review by P.G.Kodela (NSW). Currently the following informal variants are recognized but intergrades occur between some of them (especially in the Sydney basin) and further research is needed to better characterize the taxa.

The typical variant was called *Acacia terminalis* subsp. *terminalis* [*nom. inval.*] by B.R.Maslin & P.G.Kodela in B.R.Maslin (co-ordinator), *WATTLE Acacias of Australia* (2001). It is characterized among other things by its pale yellow or cream-coloured heads containing 7–14 flowers, usually stout, densely pubescent peduncles and glabrous to densely pubescent branchlets. It occurs on the northern shore of Sydney Harbour S to Botany Bay.

The second variant is currently known under the phrase name, *A. terminalis* subsp. *Long inflorescences* (P.G.Kodela 307) and was called *Acacia terminalis* subsp. *longiaxialis* P.G.Kodela & M.D.Tindale (ms) [*nom. inval.*] by B.R.Maslin & P.G.Kodela in B.R.Maslin (co-ordinator), *WATTLE Acacias of Australia* (2001). It is characterized among other things by its pubescent branchlets and leaf axes, very long racemes (to 33 cm) and pale-coloured heads. It occurs from the Toronto area to the far north coast of N.S.W.

The third variant is currently known under the phrase name, *A. terminalis* subsp. *Glabrous form* (M.Hancock 94) and was called *Acacia terminalis* subsp. *angustifolia* M.D.Tindale & P.G.Kodela (ms) [*nom. inval.*] by B.R.Maslin & P.G.Kodela in B.R.Maslin (co-ordinator), *WATTLE Acacias of Australia* (2001). It is characterized among other things by its tall shrub to small tree habit, glabrous or sparsely hairy branchlets and leaves, and pale yellow to cream-coloured heads. It occurs from central N.S.W. through Vic. to Tas.

The fourth variant is currently known under the phrase name, *A. terminalis* subsp. *Bright yellow flower* (M.Tindale NSW248078) and was called *Acacia terminalis* subsp. *aurea* M.D.Tindale & P.G.Kodela (ms) [*nom. inval.*] by B.R.Maslin & P.G.Kodela in B.R.Maslin (co-ordinator), *WATTLE Acacias of Australia* (2001). It is characterized among other things by its normally yellow or golden heads, glabrous branchlets (which are often pruinose) and leaves and its preference for growing at high altitudes. It occurs in N.S.W. where it is especially common on the upper parts of the Blue Mountains.

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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Revised by P.G.Kodela & B.R.Maslin

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



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