

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia torulosa Benth.



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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Torulosa Wattle, Deep-gold Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Widespread in tropical N.T. and Qld, N of 23°S.

Description

Slightly **resinous shrub** or **tree**, 1.3–15 m high. Bark flaky when old. **Branchlets** angled towards apices, soon **terete**, **glabrous**. Phyllodes **linear** to very narrowly **elliptic**, (5–) 7–18 (–20.5) cm long, (4–) 6–15 (–18) mm wide, thinly to moderately **coriaceous**, yellowish green (at least when dry), **scurfy** when mature; nerves 10–13 per mm, nonanastomosing, with prominent midnerve and 1 or 2 semiprominent nerves; **gland** 1, to 2 mm above **pulvinus**. Spikes 1–4 cm long. Flowers **5-merous**; **calyx** 0.5–0.8 mm long, free almost to base, with **hyaline** hairs; **corolla** 0.8–1.3 mm long, dissected to 1/2, **glabrous**; **ovary** densely **pubescent**. Pods **linear**, strongly **moniliform**, **convex** over seeds, 6–20 cm long, 3–7 mm wide, longitudinally **nerve-ridged**, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, **±elliptic**, 4.4–6.5 mm long, dark brown; **areole** narrowly **oblong**, open, slightly raised within a central depression, often paler than rest of seed.

Phenology

Flowers Mar.–July.

Habitat

Grows usually in alluvial sandy soil, close to streams, on rocky hillsides or near beaches, in eucalypt woodland or mixed shrubland.

Specimens

N.T.: 28.5 km W of Twin Falls, *M.Lazarides* 9129 (CANB, NSW); McArthur R. area, *L.A.Craven* 4230 (BRI, CANB, DNA, G, L, P, RSA). Qld: 56.8 km NW of 'Lakeland Downs', *R.G.Coveny* 6995 & *P.D.Hind* (AD, BRI, CANB, K, MEL, NSW, QRS).

Notes

Occupies a wide range of habitats but is not very variable morphologically. *Acacia torulosa* is a member of the '*A. tumida* group'. It has distinctive pods that are torulose, glabrous and longitudinally wrinkled, but specimens without fruit may be confused with *A. armitii*, *A. hammondii*, *A. julifera* or *A. plectocarpa*. *Acacia torulosa* produces natural hybrids with *A. difficilis*, fide B.R.Maslin & M.W.McDonald, *A key to useful Australian acacias for the seasonally dry tropics* 34 (CSIRO: Melbourne).

FOA Reference

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

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



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Australian
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Study



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