

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia trachycarpa E.Pritz. x *Acacia tumida* var. *pilbarensis* M.W.McDonald



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
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See illustration.

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Confined to the Pilbara region of north-western W.A. where it is scattered and relatively infrequent in areas N of the Fortescue R.

Description

Shrub or **tree** 2–5 (–6) high. Bark grey, normally pseudo 'Minni Ritchi' towards base of main stems (i.e. grey and exfoliating in **±oblong**, short strips which are mostly very slightly **recurved** at the ends). **Branchlets** normally **glabrous**. **Stipules** **persistent**, **triangular**, 0.5–1 mm long, dark brown. Phyllodes broadly **linear** to narrow **elliptic**, not **rigid**, upper margin flat and c. twice width of lower margin, 6–13 (–15) cm long, 4–7 (–10) mm wide, normally **glabrous**; **longitudinal** nerves numerous, fine, close together but not touching (0.2–0.3 mm apart), sometimes sparingly **anastomosing**, central **nerve** the most pronounced. Inflorescences a mixture of **axillary** spikes and short racemes 1–20 (–35) mm long; peduncles (2–) 6–12 (–14) mm long; spikes 15–25 mm long, golden, showy. Flowers **5-merous**; **calyx** dissected for about 1/2–3/4 its length, shortly **villous**. Pods (few seen) **±narrowly oblong**, flat, variably constricted between the seeds, 2–10 cm long, 9–11 mm wide, thinly **coriaceous**, **straight** to strongly **curved**, reticulately nerved, **glabrous**, pale brown. Seeds **longitudinal**, **oblong** to **elliptic**, 7 mm long, dark brown, with a narrow band of verruculose tissue bordering the **pleurogram**; **aril** dull yellow and waxy textured.

Phenology

Flowers May–July.

Habitat

It grows mostly in (often stony) sand along watercourses.

Specimens

W.A.: 6 miles [10 km] N of Fortescue R. crossing, [old] North West Coastal Hwy, *B.R.Maslin 2758* (CANB, K, PERTH); 11.65 km WSW of Mt Sabine, Millstream–Chichester Natl Park, Hamersley Ra., site 1149, *M.E.Trudgen 18347* (PERTH).

Notes

This putative hybrid has occasionally been used for amenity planting in Karratha and Dampier where it develops as a handsome tree to 6 m tall with a bushy growth form.

The putative hybrid status of this entity has been determined from field observations and from examination of herbarium material; it is recognized in the field by its pseudo 'Minni Ritchi' bark which distinguishes it from both putative parents. It is intermediate between the parents in phyllode width and inflorescence structure, fide B.R.Maslin *et al.*, *Wattles of the Pilbara* CD-ROM (2010) for discussion. Some specimens resemble *A. eriopoda* 'tumida' var. *pilbarensis* which occurs in the vicinity of Nullagine.

Plants described here as *A. trachycarpa* x *tumida* var. *pilbarensis* were erroneously referred to *A. ancistrocarpa* x *trachycarpa* by B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* : 4: 405–407 (1983) and noted under *A. ancistrocarpa* by NSW, *Fl. Australia* 11B: 246 (2001).

FOA Reference

Flora of Australia Project

Author

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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