

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia trudgeniana Maslin



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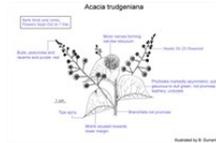
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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Trudgen's Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Scattered in north-western W.A.; occurs from Winning and Yanrey Stn (near Exmouth Gulf) NE to Balfour Downs Stn, in the Millstream-Chichester Natl Park, S of Port Hedland and Barrow Is.

Description

Shrub (0.5–) 2–5 m high, with 1 or 2 **straight** or crooked main stems (plants appearing \pm gnarled when stems crooked), **lateral** branches short and wide-spreading. Bark thick, corky. **Branchlets glabrous**, light brown to yellow tinged orange (often pale green at extremities), not **pruinose**. **Stipules spinose** but often only the bases persisting as blunt, knob-like protuberances with age, 4–8 mm long. Phyllodes inaequilaterally **ovate** to **elliptic** or rarely **obovate**, (15–) 30–50 mm long, (8–) 15–30 (–37) mm wide, **undulate**, short-**acuminate**, **pungent**, **coriaceous**, **sub-glaucous** ageing green, not **pruinose**; **midrib** prominent and situated near lower margin; minor nerves forming a close **reticulum**. Inflorescences (few seen) terminal or **axillary** racemes; **raceme axes** 3–15 cm long and (together with peduncles and flower buds) purple-red and **glabrous**; peduncles twinned (rarely 3), 7–20 (–25) mm long; heads **globular**, 20–25-flowered, light golden; buds dark purple-red. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals \pm free. Pods **sub-straight** to strongly **curved**, raised over seeds and slightly to moderately constricted between them, 2–5 cm long, 8–10 mm wide, thinly **crustaceous**, light brown, **glabrous**. Seeds (few seen) longitudinally **oblique**, **oblong-elliptic** to \pm **globose**, c. 5 mm long, c. 4 mm wide, dark brown; **areole** very small; **funicle** rather thick, folded below seed, not or scarcely expanded into an **aril**.

Phenology

Flowers Sept./Oct. to perhaps Dec.

Habitat

Grows in sand or loam on flat or low-undulating plains with spinifex ground cover.

Specimens

W.A.: N of Winning Pool, *C.A.Gardner 6232* (PERTH); Balfour Downs Stn, *B.R.Maslin 8541* (PERTH); Yanrey Stn (S of Onslow), *B.R.Maslin 8636A* (NSW, NT, PERTH); Barrow Is., *B.R.Maslin 8800* (PERTH); 4.3 km NW of Mt Montagu, *M.E.Trudgen MET 15011* (PERTH).

Notes

A dwarf form occurs at one site on Barrow Is.; its phyllodes are smaller than normal (15–25 x 8–10 mm).

A member of the '*A. pyrifolia* group', closely related to the more common *A. inaequilatera* which is most readily distinguished by its pruinose branchlets, often more blue-grey, pruinose phyllodes, slightly more flowers per head, generally more gnarled and diffuse growth form and earlier flowering period. These two species are easily confused because of their corky bark, spiny stipules, pungent, asymmetric phyllodes with midrib near lower margin and brightly coloured, raceme axes,

peduncles and petals; they grow near one another but are not known to be sympatric. *Acacia trudgeniana* is also related to *A. marramamba* which differs in its non-corky bark, sparingly and openly anastomosing minor phyllode nerves and brownish red raceme axes, peduncles and flower buds.

A fire-tolerant species with its thick protective bark and its ability to resprout by epicormic growth following burns. Also has the capacity to resprout after the above ground biomass has been removed through bulldozing and other clearing operations.

FOA Reference

Flora of Australia Project

Author

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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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