

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia undoolyana G.J.Leach



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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Sickle-leaf Wattle, Undoolya Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Restricted to the East MacDonnell Ra., N.T., from N'Dhala Gorge (c. 65 km E of Alice Springs), Kadaicha Ra. and 25 km SW of Trephina Gorge.

Description

Shrub or tree 1–15 m high. Bark flaky or fissured, greyish brown. Branchlets terete, appressed pubescent or glabrous, rarely lightly pruinose, obscurely ribbed. New shoots silvery or very pale yellow sericeous. Phyllodes narrowly elliptic, normally markedly falcate, 15–22 cm long, (4–) 6–12 (–16) mm wide, with conspicuous yellowish margins, coriaceous, stiff, silvery-velvety when young, later sparsely pubescent and with dense white scurfy bloom; finely multistriate, with 1–3 nerves more prominent, not visibly anastomosing; gland basal, inconspicuous. Inflorescences short, (1–) 2 (–4)-branched racemes 1–10 (–15) mm long which often grow out; peduncles 3–6 mm long, densely appressed pubescent; spikes, 1.3–3.5 (–5) cm long, dense, bright yellow. Flowers 5-merous; calyx 0.7–1 mm long, dissected to 1/4–1/5, pubescent especially on ribs, with obtuse lobes; corolla twice as long as calyx, dissected to 1/2, glabrous. Pods linear, raised over and constricted between seeds, 5–11 cm long, 2–3 mm wide, sparsely pubescent. Seeds longitudinal, oblong, 3–4.5 mm long, brown.

Phenology

Flowers Aug. & Sept.; fruits Sept. & Oct.

Habitat

Grows on steep rocky slopes with skeletal soils or at the base of sandstone gullies.

Specimens

N.T.: N'dala [N'dhala] Gorge, 15 Oct. 1966, *A.C.Beauglehole*. (DNA); Ndala [N'dhala] Gorge Scenic Reserve, 16 Aug. 1987, *L.D.Meredith et al.* (CANB n.v., MEL n.v., NSW); Kadaicha Ra., *A.Soo*s 24 to 27 (DNA).

Notes

Closely allied to *A. macdonnellensis*, being distinguished by its strongly falcate phyllodes which are longer (15–22 cm), broader (6–12 mm) and silvery when fresh. It is also related to *A. ammobia* which has glabrous peduncles, mostly straight phyllodes and occurs on sand dunes.

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