

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia wattsiiana F.Muell. ex Benth.



Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
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B.R. Maslin



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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Watt's Wattle, Dog Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Restricted to the Clare and Gladstone areas, North Mt Lofty Ra., S.A.

Description

Shrub or tree 1–4 m high, obconic with a spreading, rounded, bushy crown, normally multi-stemmed. Branchlets acutely angled at extremities, reddish brown, glabrous. Phyllodes mostly obovate to narrowly oblanceolate, 3–7 cm long, mostly 5–12 mm wide, narrowed at base, rounded-obtuse, thinly coriaceous, glaucous, light green when young, glabrous; midrib slightly excentric; lateral nerves obscure; gland not prominent, 5–16 mm above pulvinus. Inflorescences racemose; raceme axes 10–25 mm long, glabrous; peduncles 3–9 mm long, slender, glabrous; heads globular, subdensely 12–20-flowered, yellow; buds obtuse. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united almost to their apices. Pods linear to narrowly oblong, to 9 cm long, 6–8 mm wide, firmly chartaceous to thinly coriaceous, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, oblong to elliptic, c. 4.5 mm long, slightly shiny, dark brown to black; funicle encircling seed in a double fold, brittle, dark reddish to black; aril clavate.

Habitat

Grows in calcareous clay in woodland, open forest or tussock grassland.

Specimens

S.A.: World's End Ck, *R.Bates* 3321 (AD); c. 10 km W of Gladstone, *B.Copley* 2905 & 2906 (both AD); 5 km W of Tandowie on road to Wirrabara State Forest, *B.R.Maslin* 5998 (AD, MEXU, PERTH).

Notes

The variant of uncertain rank noted under *A. wattsiiana*, B.R.Maslin in *Fl. Australia* 11A: 267 (2001) is now described as *A. spooneri*.

Information on the biological and ecological features, and the utilisation potential, of this species is given in B.R.Maslin and M.W.McDonald, *AcaciaSearch: Evaluation of Acacia as a woody crop option for southern Australia*, RIRDC Publication No. 03/017, 228–231 (2004).

A member of the '*A. microbotrya* group', related to *A. quomensis* and *A. spooneri*. *Acacia deuteroneura* (Qld) has similar phyllodes to those of *A. wattsiiana* except that they are 2-nerved; it is further distinguished by its pruinose branchlets, transverse seeds and pods 12–13 mm wide. Closely resembling *A. chalkeri* (N.S.W.) which differs in mucronulate phyllodes and more densely flowered heads: the relationship between these two species should be reassessed.

FOA Reference

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

Author

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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