

# WATTLE

## Acacias of Australia

### *Vachellia pallidifolia* (Tindale) Kodala



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Kym Brennan



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B.R. Maslin



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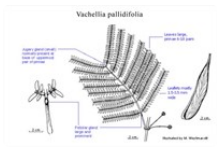
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See illustration.



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

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Occurs in N.T. S from near Darwin to the Victoria R. region, c. 15°45'S.

### Description

Tree 4–9 m high. Bark corky, fissured. Branchlets glabrous; younger branchlets often puberulous. Stipular spines 0.5–1.5 mm long, often inconspicuous or absent, to 10 mm long on young growth. Leaves: petiole 0.8–2.2 cm long, ±glabrous to puberulous or pubescent, mostly with a prominent gland at base of or just below lowest pair of pinnae; rachis (3.7–) 6.5–17.5 (–22) cm long, ±glabrous to puberulous or pubescent, mostly with a prominent, often broadly obovate gland at apex and sometimes at base of second pair of pinnae from apex; pinnae 6–18 pairs (often subopposite), 4–8 (–11.5) cm long; pinnules 13–34 pairs, oblong to narrowly oblong, lanceolate or elliptic to narrowly elliptic, sometimes slightly curved, (2.5–) 5–12 mm long, 1.5–3.5 (–4) mm wide, discoloured, glabrous or ciliate-ciliate, with midnerve and lateral nerves visible and raised above. Inflorescences 1 or 2 in axils, simple or on a short axis which sometimes extends as new growth; peduncles (7–) 25–43 mm long, with involucre of bracts 1/3–1/2 way from base; heads globular, 16–23-flowered, cream-coloured to pale yellow. Pods slightly constricted between some or all seeds, ±flat except slightly raised over seeds, 8–13 (–17.5) cm long, 15–22 mm wide, coriaceous to thinly woody, longitudinally and obliquely nerved forming a 'V' pattern, almost glabrous or puberulous mainly along margins.

### Phenology

Flowers recorded Sept. & Oct. Fruits Mar.–Oct.

### Habitat

Grows in open forest, open woodland, low open woodland with grassy understorey and grassland, in chocolate brown soil, gravelly clay soil, rocky limestone soil, sandy red soil and alluvium, near watercourses, on drainage flats, sandstone outcrops and in undulating topography.

### Specimens

N.T.: near Gerowie Ck, *S.T.Blake 17166* (BRI, K); Arnhem Hwy, W of Point Stuart T/O, *I.D.Cowie 352* (BRI, DNA, NSW); c. 60 miles [96.6 km] NE of Maranboy Police Stn, *M.Lazarides & L.Adams 99* (BRI, CANB, DNA, K, L, MEL, NSW, US); Kakadu Natl Park, 25.2 km S along Snake Plain track from the road running W from Kakadu Hwy towards Black Springs, *A.V.Slee, L.A.Craven & K.Brennan 2903* (CANB, NSW); c. 65 km W of Victoria R. on the Victoria Hwy a few km from Dingo Springs, *M.D.Tindale 10122 et al.* (DNA, NSW, PERTH).

### Notes

Confusion concerning the interpretation of the type of *A. pallida*, hence the application of the name *A. pallidifolia*, is discussed by P.G.Kodala & P.G.Wilson, *Telopea* 11: 240 (2006); see also note under *V. valida*.

Based on molecular and other data *Acacia sens. lat.* is now considered as comprising a number of segregate genera, see J.T.Miller & D.S.Seigler, *Austral. Syst. Bot.* 25: 217–224 (2012) for overview. Many taxa in the former *Acacia* subg. *Acacia* are now referable to the genus *Vachellia*, including the one presented here.

### FOA Reference

**Author**

P.G.Kodela

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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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