

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Vachellia suberosa (A.Cunn. ex Benth.) Kodala



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Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.31337).
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Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.31338).
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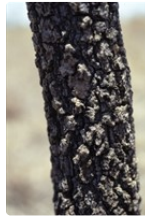
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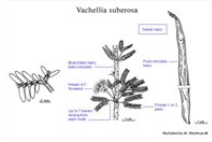
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Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2.
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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Corkybark Wattle, Mimosa

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in the Kimberley region of W.A. from Carson R. area (near Kalumburu) and the Mitchell Plateau S to Fitzroy R. and Fitzroy Crossing, and known from a single collection in the N.T. c. 13 km NE of Oenpelli Mission.

Description

Slender **shrub** or **tree** to 14 m high; canopy conical or columnar; branches short, horizontal and sometimes drooping. Bark hard, corky, deeply **fissured**. Branchlets with **longitudinal** furrows, moderately to densely **pubescent** or **pilose** especially when young, becoming almost **glabrous** and often flaky. Stipular spines 2–13.5 mm long, often diminutive and appearing absent. Leaves up to 7 arising from nodes: **petiole** mostly 0.1–0.7 cm long, **pubescent**, mostly with a small **gland** at base of **pinnae**; **rachis** when present 0.1–0.2 (0.25) cm long; **pinnae** 1 (rarely 2) pairs, 0.3–1.8 cm long; pinnules 5–16 (–19) pairs, **narrowly oblong** to **cultrate**, sometimes **oblong**, **elliptic** or **±lanceolate**, 1.1–4.5 mm long, 0.4–1.3 mm wide, **pubescent**, the hairs often mainly on the margins and sparse on both surfaces. Inflorescences **simple**, solitary in axils; peduncles 2–10 mm long, with **involucrel** of bracts c. 1/2 way or below; heads **globular**, 4–7-flowered, white to pale yellow. Pods flat except slightly raised over seeds, 4–20 cm long, 7–14 mm wide, **coriaceous**, pale olive, brown, grey or grey-green, longitudinally **striate**, becoming **±ridged**, **puberulous** to **pubescent** or **velvety**. Seeds **±white-villous** though **areole** often partly **glabrous**.

Phenology

Flowers recorded Feb., Apr.–Aug.; fruits July–Sept., Nov.

Habitat

Grows often in grasslands, forming colonies of shrubs or trees which may be dominant or co-dominant with *Bauhinia*, sometimes in eucalypt woodland, frequently in grey or black, cracking, clayey soils or occasionally in sandy loam, on grassed mudflats, floodplains, in creek alluvium or on the fringe of downs in calcareous soil, sometimes in basaltic soils.

Specimens

W.A.: c. 25 miles [40 km] S Fitzroy Crossing, *N.Byrnes* 2228 (K, NSW, DNA, PERTH); near Mount House HS, Kimberley, *C.H.Gittins* 1436 (NSW); 2 km NE of Surveyors Falls, Mitchell Plateau, NW Kimberley, *K.F.Kenneally* 7045 (PERTH, TLF); 10 miles [16.1 km] E of Kimberley Downs Stn, *M.Lazarides* 6515 (CANB, K, NSW, PERTH). N.T.: c. 8 miles [12.8 km] NE of Oenpelli Mission, *M.Lazarides* 7744 (CANB, K, NSW, PERTH).

Notes

Probably without any close relatives due to unusual combination of attributes, including villous seeds, *fide* L.Pedley, *Austrobaileya* 6: 179 (2002).

Foliage and pods eaten by stock.

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

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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Australian
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Resources
Study



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