

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Vachellia sutherlandii Kodala



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Image courtesy of Northern Territory Herbarium



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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Cork Tree, Corkwood Wattle, Weeping Mimosa

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in Gulf of Carpentaria country from Kilgour R. area S to Rockhampton Downs and Alroy Downs Stns, N of Barkly Hwy, N.T., and near Burketown S to Aramac-Longreach area, Qld.

Description

Shrub or tree 3–15 m high, with slender **trunk** and **pendulous** branches. Bark \pm corky, deeply furrowed. **Branchlets glabrous**. Stipular spines 1–6 (–8) mm long. Leaves: **petiole** 0.8–3 cm long, **glabrous** or sparsely **puberulous**, mostly with small, raised **gland** at base of lowest pair of **pinnae**; **rachis** 5–23 cm long, **glabrous** or sparsely **puberulous**, with small **gland** at apex, sometimes other **jugary** glands present towards both ends; **pinnae** (6–) 12–29 (–33) pairs, 1.6–6.5 (–8.2) cm long, often \pm alternately arranged towards centre of **rachis**; **pinnules** \pm **herbaceous**, 9–31 pairs, mostly well-spaced, **narrowly oblong** to **cultrate** or sometimes narrowly **oblanceolate** or **elliptic**, 1.5–5 (–7) mm long, 0.5–1.5 (–1.7) mm wide, \pm **glabrous** or ciliate, sometimes especially towards apex. Inflorescences **simple**, solitary; peduncles 1.5–18 mm long, with **involucel** of bracts near apex; spikes 2–7 cm long, c. 20–50-flowered, pale cream-coloured; flowers usually separated or in clusters. Pods **straight-sided** or irregularly constricted between seeds, flat except slightly raised over seeds, 3.5–25 cm long, 10–23 mm wide, **coriaceous**, with \pm **anastomosing longitudinal** nerves, speckled with pale lenticels, **glabrous**; margins often very narrowly winged.

Phenology

Flowers recorded Feb., May., June; fruits June.–Oct.

Habitat

Often forming groves in grassland or open woodland on plains, in black or grey, often cracking, clay soils or loamy soils; also on dunes near saline tidal flats.

Specimens

N.T.: Rockhampton Downs HS, 2 Oct. 1957, *G.Chippendale* (CANB, DNA, NSW). Qld: Winton-Longreach, 6 June 1978, *G.W.Althofer* (BRI, CANB, NSW); 38.5 miles [61.95 km] S of Prairie, to Muttaborra, *P.Hind 1069* & *C.K.Ingram* (BRI, CANB, K, L, MEL, NSW, PERTH, US); 0.8 miles [1.3 km] E of Corinda Stn, *R.A.Perry 1370* (CANB, DNA, K); Levuka, Oorindi, 23 May 1967, *J.T.Waterhouse* (NSW).

Notes

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.

Vachellia sutherlandii is the only Australian species of the former subg. *Acacia* with spicate inflorescences.

FOA Reference

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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