

Acacia holosericea A.Cunn. ex G.Don

Family:
Fabaceae

Don, G. (1832) *General History of Dichlamydeous Plants* 2: 407. Type: Port Keats, Cambridge Gulf, Oct. 1830. *CSIRO Herbarium*. Lecto: BM, K. Fide Pedley (1978).

Common name:
Silky Wattle; Silver-leaved Wattle; Wattle, Silky; Wattle, Silver-leaved

Stem

Usually flowers and fruits as a shrub 1-4 m tall.

Leaves

Leaves phyllodineous, usually clothed in white appressed hairs which give the leaf a velvety texture and a grey-green appearance. Leaf blades about 6.5-17 x 1.7-4.8 cm. A gland usually visible on the margin at the leaf blade-petiole junction. Veins longitudinal and parallel, about 3 or 4 veins more prominent than the rest. Petiole somewhat swollen and transversely wrinkled but wrinkling often difficult to see because of the covering of pale hairs.

Flowers

Flowers yellow, spikes about 3-6 cm long, moderately dense, usually produced in pairs in the upper axils. Calyx sericeous or tomentose, about 0.5-0.7 mm long. Corolla sericeous or tomentose, about three times as long as the calyx.

Fruit

Pods tightly coiled, about 2.5-5 mm wide, usually with many pods tangled together. Seeds brown-black with the long axis parallel to that of the pod. Funicle yellow.

Seedlings

Cotyledons oblong, about 4-5 x 2-3 mm, apex obtuse, base sagittate or auriculate. First leaf pinnate, second leaf bipinnate. By the sixth or seventh leaf stage: leaves bipinnate, petiole broadly flattened. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves phyllodineous, narrowly elliptic, usually with two main veins running from the base to the apex or bipinnate with flattened petioles. Stipules triangular, about 1.5-2 mm long. All parts of the seedling usually clothed in fine white hairs. Seed germination time 9 to 14 days.

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Australia, occurs in WA, NT, CYP, NEQ, CEQ and southwards as far as coastal central Queensland and southern inland Queensland. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 900 m. Usually grows in open forest but sometimes found in monsoon forest and vine thickets.

Natural History & Notes

This species has been used as a fish poison.

Synonyms

***Acacia holosericea* var. *typica* Domin**, *Bibliotheca Botanica* 89(4): 824(1928). ***Racosperma holosericeum* (G.Don) Pedley**, *Austrobaileya* 2(4): 349(1987). ***Acacia holosericea* var. *multispirea* Domin**, *Bibliotheca Botanica* 89(4): 824(1928), Type: Queensland, Chillagoe, Feb. 1910, Domin 5176; holo: PR. ***Acacia mangium* var. *holosericea* (G.Don) C.T.White**, *Contributions from the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University* 4: 42(1933). ***Acacia holosericea* var. *neurocarpa* (Hook.) Domin**, *Bibliotheca Botanica* 89(4): 824(1928). ***Acacia holosericea* var. *glabrata* Maiden**, *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland* 30: 48(1918), Type: Gilbert River (E.W. Bick 146), communicated by C.T. White. Iso: BRI.

RFK Code

3114



Leaves and flowers. © Australian Plant Image Index (APII).
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Fruit [not vouchered]. CC-BY J.L.

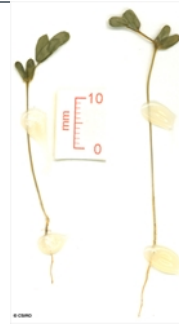
Dowe



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



1st leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

