

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

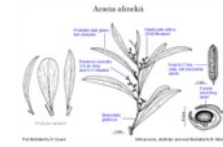
Acacia alcockii Maslin & Whibley



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in several areas at the southern extremity of Eyre Peninsula, S.A., namely along the south-western coast between Mt Drummond and Mt Dutton and on the south-eastern coast between Billy Light Point to West Point in the Lincoln Natl Park.

Description

Bushy **shrub** to c.3 m high, often suckering. **Branchlets** dark reddish, **glabrous**. Phyllodes on short **stem**-projections, narrowly **elliptic** to **oblongate**, **straight** to shallowly **recurved**, mostly 6–9 cm long and 8–21 mm wide, narrowed at base, **acute** to **acuminate** and subuncinate, infrequently **obtuse**, thin, **glabrous**, 1-nerved per face, obscurely **penninerved**; **gland** normally 8–12 mm above **pulvinus**; **pulvinus** 2–6 mm long. Inflorescences mostly 5–11-headed racemes; **raceme axes** (1.5–) 2–4 (–5) cm long, **glabrous**; peduncles (3–) 4–5 mm long, 8–10 mm long when peduncles not in racemes (rare); heads **globular**, 25–40-flowered, pale yellow. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals c. 5/6-united. Pods **oblong** to **narrowly oblong**, **straight**-edged to constricted between seeds, flat, to c. 9 cm long but often shorter, 8–17 mm wide, **coriaceous** to **crustaceous**, occasionally subwoody, **glabrous**. Seeds transverse, **oblong-elliptic**, 5–6 mm long, \pm dull, black; **funicle** encircling seed in a double fold, light red-brown; **aril clavate**.

Habitat

Normally grows in sand over limestone in mallee communities, sometimes with *Melaleuca* spp.

Specimens

S.A.: 'Pillie Lakes', c. 15 km S of Port Lincoln, *C.R.Alcock 1256* (AD, NSW, PERTH); Stanford Hill, roadside through Lincoln Natl Park, *C.R.Alcock 3279* (CANB *n.v.*, NSW, PERTH); Near Billy Light Point, Port Lincoln, *D.E.Symon 6693* (AD).

Notes

Plants from Port Lincoln and the northern part of the Lincoln Natl Park (i.e. Stamford Hill and Cape Donnington Peninsula) have normally shallowly recurved phyllodes 8–11 mm wide and thin to moderately coriaceous pods to 7–9 cm long and 8–12 mm wide. In the southern part of the Park (i.e. West Point, Memory Cove and Jussieu Bay) the phyllodes are normally straight and 12–21 mm wide, and the pods to 3.5–5 cm long, 12–17 mm wide and moderately coriaceous to \pm crustaceous or subwoody. The northern populations may represent a stabilised hybrid involving probably *A. anceps* and *A. leiophylla* while the southern populations may represent a spontaneous hybrid between these putative parents, *vide* B.R.Maslin & D.J.E.Whibley, *Nutysia* 6: 22–23 (1987).

Acacia alcockii is a member of the '*Acacia microbotrya* group' distinguished from *A. anceps* and *A. leiophylla* by a combination of its racemose inflorescences and transverse seeds. It is similar to *A. notabilis* which has thicker, grey-green to glaucous phyllodes and bright golden flower-heads.

FOA Reference

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

Author

B.R.Maslin

Minor edits by J.Rogers

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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