

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia anceps DC.



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B.R. Maslin



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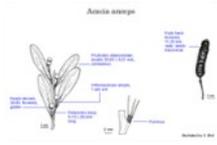
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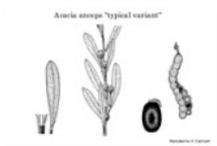
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Acacia anceps occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs principally in coastal areas from Middle Is., Recherche Archipelago, W.A., to the southern parts of the Eyre and Yorke Peninsulas as far as Sturt Bay, S.A.

Description

Bushy spreading **shrub** to c. 3 m high. **Branchlets** angled at extremities, **glabrous**. Phyllodes sometimes **continuous** with **branchlets**, normally **elliptic to oblanceolate**, mostly 2.5–6.5 cm long and 8–30 mm wide, **obtuse**, sometimes **retuse, coriaceous, glaucous**, sometimes pale green, **glabrous**; **midrib** and marginal nerves prominent; **lateral nerves** often obscure; **pulvinus** distinct or poorly developed. Inflorescences **simple**, 1 per **axil**, initiated synchronously with phyllodes on new shoots; peduncles (6–) 10–26 mm long, stout, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, densely 50–130-flowered, golden. Flowers **5-merous**; sepals united. Pods **narrowly oblong, straight-edged** or slightly constricted between seeds, normally to 6 cm long, 10–15 mm wide, firmly **crustaceous to woody, pruinose** at least when young, **glabrous**. Seeds (few seen) transverse, **oblong to elliptic**, 4.5–6 mm long, \pm dull, variable in colour, c. 1/2 encircled by red-brown **funicle**.

Habitat

Grows in calcareous sand and shallow red-brown sand, in coastal dune vegetation or open scrub.

Specimens

W.A.: Middle Is., *A.S.Weston* 8932 (PERTH); Eucla, 1882, *J.Oliver* (MEL). S.A.: Port Lincoln, *J.B.Cleland* (AD96705036); Yalata Swamp, *A.E.Orchard* 3205 (AD, PERTH); Ceduna, near Cape Thevenard, *B.R.Maslin* 4817 (PERTH); Sturt Bay, *D.J.E.Whibley* 5531 (AD).

Notes

Seed colour, ranging as it does from uniformly black to dark brown mottled yellow, is unusual and requires further investigation. On some plants from W.A. the peduncles are only c. 6 mm long.

Much of the variation within this species is accommodated by two phyllode variants, as discussed by B.R.Maslin & D.J.E.Whibley, *Nuytsia* 6: 25 (1987). Intermediates between the two variants occur, particularly on parts of western Eyre Penin. in the Venus Bay and Streaky Bay areas. The types of both *A. anceps* and *A. anceps* var. *angustifolia* represent the widespread variant which is characterised by rather long (mostly 3.5–6.5 x 0.8–2.1 cm), oblanceolate, distinctly pinnate phyllodes and flowers 38–80 per head. The second variant of *A. anceps* is now treated under *A. sp.* Winged (C.R.Alcock 4936).

A member of the '*Acacia microbotrya* group' allied to *A. alcockii*; it appears to hybridise with *A. leiophylla*, *A. nematophylla* (see *A. anceps* x *nematophylla*) and *A. notabilis*, *vide* B.R.Maslin & D.J.E.Whibley, *Nuytsia* 6: 26 (1987).

FOA Reference

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

Author

Edited by B.R.Maslin

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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