Acacia aneura var. major Pedley

Family
Fabaceae

Distribution
Occurs in all mainland States except W.A. and Vic.

Description
Tree to 14 m tall. Branchlets densely pubescent, with hairs obscuring ribs when young. Phyllodes straight to shallowly recurved, flat, 2–6.5 (–8) cm long, (2–) 3–8 (–13) mm wide, densely pubescent when young. Flowers with sepals 0.6 mm long, rarely to 0.8 mm, free or occasionally united in a short tube; corolla 1–1.3 (–1.5) mm long; stamens c. 2.5 mm (rarely to 3 mm) long. Pods oblong, to 5 cm long, 7–17 mm wide with wings 1–2 mm wide or wider, chartaceous, brown, densely pubescent when young, becoming glabrate, reticulately nervet. Seeds oblique to transverse, oval to oblong in outline, 3–4.5 mm long, 2.5–3.5 mm wide; aril obliquely cupular, pale yellow.

Habitat
In south-central Qld and central N.S.W. it is usually found on deep loamy soils often in situations where it receives run-off water from adjacent hills, often forming open forest and woodland communities alone or with Eucalyptus populnea, E. intertexta or other eucalypts. In more arid regions it occurs in lower, more open communities such as low woodlands and shrublands.

Specimens

Notes
L. Pedley, *Flora of Australia* 11B: 321 (2001), described *Acacia aneura* var. *major* and *A. aneura* var. *intermedia* (now treated as a synonym of *Acacia aneura*) as being closely related and one possibly being an ecotype of the other, and they were distinguished from *A. aneura* var. *aneura* by their wide phyllodes and winged pods. Plants from the vicinity of the eastern end of the Hamersley Range, Western Australia, were placed with doubt as var. *major* by Pedley (2001). The examples provided have since been identified as *A. aneura* (B.R. Maslin 4620 and Leeuwen 838) and a hybrid involving *A. ayersiana*, possibly *A. aneura × ayersiana* (B.R. Maslin 7235). Their phyllodes (6.5–8 cm) and spikes (to 4 cm) are both longer than is normal in *A. aneura* var. *major*.


FOA Reference

Author
L.Pedley

Minor edits by B.R.Maslin
This identification key and fact sheets are available as a mobile application:

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

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