

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia atopa Pedley



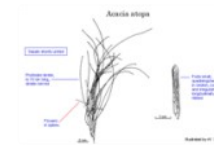
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Acacia atopa occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Restricted to a small area in the Gascoyne R. basin in the vicinity of Gascoyne Junction, W.A.

Description

Tree to 4.5 m tall, slender, occasionally weeping. Branchlets slender, with white appressed hairs between brown resinous ribs. Phyllodes linear, terete, 6–12 cm long, 0.7–1 mm diam., striate with longitudinal resinous ribs, appressed-pubescent between them. Inflorescences single in axils; peduncles 4–8 (–10) mm long; spikes c. 20 mm long, rather loose. Flowers 5-merous; calyx c. 0.7 mm long, with oblong lobes and a distinct tube 0.1–0.2 mm long, with a few hairs on lobes; corolla c. 1.2 mm long, with a few hairs on tips; stamens c. 2.5 mm long; ovary with dense appressed longish hairs. Pods linear, not stipitate, straight, square in transverse section, to 3.5 cm long, 2–4 mm wide, with narrow longitudinal wings 0.5 mm wide on angles, pale brown, upper and lower surfaces with coarse irregular longitudinal ribs and yellowish nerves between them, appressed-pubescent, dehiscent. Seeds longitudinal, narrowly oblong, to 8 mm long and 1.7 mm wide; aril not developed (absent?).

Habitat

Recorded from red clay and red clay-loam, sometimes in rocky situations. 'Mulga', *Acacia ramulosa*, *Eremophila* spp. and *Senna* spp. are reported to be associated woody species.

Specimens

W.A.: Gascoyne R., Kennedy Ra., C.A. Gardner 6082 (PERTH); same locality, J.S. Beard 4489 (PERTH); Injinu Spring in Injinu Hills on Dalgety Downs Stn, G. Johnstone 1/84 (PERTH).

Notes

The narrow geographic range of this species overlaps the ranges of *A. ramulosa* var. *linophylla* and *A. subtessarogona*. It possibly originated as a result of hybridism between the two taxa. Its phyllodes resemble those of *A. ramulosa* and its pods are structurally similar to those of *A. subtessarogona* although much smaller.

FOA Reference

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

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Minor edits by J. Reid & 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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