

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia cambagei R.T.Baker



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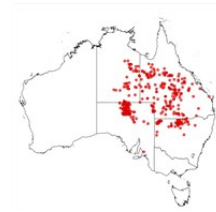
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Acacia cambagei occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Gidgee, Gidyea, Gidya, Gidgea, Stinking Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Widespread in arid and semi-arid eastern Australia, extending from central N.T. and north-eastern S.A. into central Qld and north-western N.S.W.

Description

Tree 4–15 m high, malodorous, spreading; crown moderately **dense**. Bark flaky, dark grey. **Branchlets** with a grey-white often flaking **mealy bloom**, **glabrous** or **appressed-puberulous**. Phyllodes narrowly **elliptic** to **linear-elliptic**, narrowed at both ends, **straight** or **recurved**, 4–14 cm long, 3–10 (–15) mm wide, **coriaceous**, with surface features as on **branchlets**, **glaucous**, 1–3 nerves more evident than the numerous closely parallel indistinct intervening ones. Inflorescences 4–10 (–20)-headed racemes; **raceme axes** 2–9 (–30) mm long, **appressed-puberulous**; peduncles (2–) 4–10 mm long, sparsely **appressed-puberulous**; heads **globular**, 3–5 mm diam., 12–25-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-**merous**; sepals free to 1/2-united; petals **glabrous** to **appressed-puberulous**. Pods **narrowly oblong**, **±straight**, flat, to 13 cm long, 8–12 mm wide, **chartaceous**, coarsely **reticulate**, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, broadly **elliptic** to **oblong**, flattened, 5–9 mm long, soft, peripherally crested, dull, dark brown; **funicle** slightly arillate.

Habitat

Tolerates a wide range of soils but occurs most commonly in dark cracking clay or loam, as scattered individuals or in dense, almost pure stands.

Specimens

N.T.: 62.3 km SE of Rankin, *G.Chippendale NT7232* (NSW, PERTH). S.A.: Innamincka Stn, *J.Vickery 2* (PERTH). Qld: c. 100 km NNW of Clermont, *Adams 958* (K, PERTH); 32 km W of Adavale, *L.Pedley 2492* (K, PERTH). N.S.W.: N of Bourke on road to Cunnamulla, *J.G. & M.H.Simmons 1065* (NSW, PERTH).

Notes

The phyllodes of young plants lack the characteristic mealy bloom and are rather conspicuously hairy.

Related to and perhaps only subspecifically distinct from *A. georginae*; the two may be difficult to distinguish where their geographic ranges meet, *vide* L.Pedley, *Austrobaileya* 1: 200 (1978). The main morphological differences are that *A. georginae* has broader, curved to openly once-coiled pods, slightly larger seeds and generally more hairy petals. An important biochemical difference is that the foliage of *A. georginae* is highly toxic to livestock, whereas that of *A. cambagei* is used commonly as forage in some regions under drought conditions. The foetid odour of this species and *A. georginae* occurs also in *A. pachycarpa*. Also related to *A. harpophylla*. *Acacia cambagei* putatively hybridizes with *A. tephрина* SW of Longreach, Qld (*H.Cartan s.n.*, BRI 739297).

FOA Reference

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

Author

Minor edits 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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