

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia filicifolia Cheel & M.B.Welch



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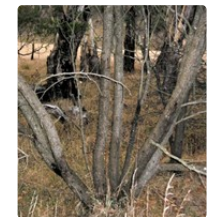
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Acacia filicifolia occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Fern-leaved Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Common, occurring from Stanthorpe, south-eastern Qld, to North and South Coast of N.S.W. from Legume S to Bateman's Bay, as well as Northern and Central Tablelands, and North and Central Western Slopes of N.S.W.

Description

Shrub or **erect tree** 3–14 m high. Bark smooth, green, grey to dark brown, later **fissured** near base. **Branchlets** **straight** or zig-zagged, **terete** except towards apex, **pruinose**, with grey slightly matted hairs, later \pm **glabrous**; ridges 0.2 mm high. Young foliage-tips whitish to golden, **pubescent**. Leaves fern-like, **herbaceous** to subcoriaceous, dark green, paler beneath; **petiole** above **pulvinus** mostly 0.7–2.3 cm long, flattened vertically, usually with 1 **orbicular**, **pubescent** to **glabrous gland** at base of or near lowest pair of **pinnae** and 1–4 sometimes **contiguous** additional glands; **rachis** (1.5–) 4–12 cm long, with 2–5 **interjугary** glands between pairs of **pinnae**; **jугary** glands sometimes absent; **pinnae** (3–) 5–14 pairs, 3–6.5 (–8) cm long; pinnules 23–68 (–93) pairs, closely spaced to **crowded**, **narrowly oblong** to **linear**, (3–) 4–10 (–12) mm long, 0.4–0.7 (–0.8) mm wide, with fine \pm **appressed** white hairs (often only on margins) or **glabrous**, **obtus**e to broadly **rounded**. Inflorescences in

axillary racemes, or **axillary** or terminal false-panicles; peduncles 2–4 (–6) mm long, finely hairy. Heads **globular**, (15–) 20–30-flowered, dark yellow; flower-buds compact. Pods almost **straight**-sided or indented between a few seeds, 3.5–13 cm long, 6–17 mm wide, subcoriaceous, blue to blue-black, **pruinose**, **glabrous**.

Phenology

Flowers late July–Oct.; fruits chiefly (Oct.–) Nov.–Jan.

Habitat

Grows in open forest, eucalypt scrub-woodland and savannah, on valley slopes or alluvial flats, often near streams, often on granite but on various strata and in sandy soils.

Specimens

Qld: 6.6 miles [10.5 km] E of Ballandean, *L.Pedley 1599* (BRI, MEL). N.S.W.: 32 miles [51.5 km] NE of Glen Innes, *R.Coveny 1926* (BRI, CANB, K, L, NSW, PERTH, US); 52.8 km E of Inverell, *R.Coveny 12359 & J.Dalby* (AD, B, BM, HO, MO, NY, PERTH, TL, US, Z); 1 mile [1.6 km] N of Gibber Swamp, Colo–Putty road, *M.D.Tindale & B.G.Briggs* (NSW80696).

Notes

Closely related to *A. storyi*. Often grows with *A. parvipinnula* in N.S.W. but they do not hybridise.

Information on the biological and ecological features, and the utilisation potential, of this species is given in B.R.Maslin and M.W.McDonald, *AcaciaSearch: Evaluation of Acacia as a woody crop option for southern Australia*, RIRDC Publication No. 03/017, 88–91 (2004).

Authorship of *A. filicifolia* is attributed to Cheel & M.B.Welch ex M.B.Welch, Coombs & McGlynn, *J. & Proc. Roy. Soc. New South Wales* 65: 225 (1932) by A.D.Chapman (in *Australian Plant Name Index A–C*, 1991), however this is incorrect under Article 34.1 (b) of the ICBN (St Louis Code) 2000 since the name is used in anticipation of its future acceptance.

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 B.R.Maslin & J.Reid

This identification key and fact sheets are available as a mobile application:



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Australian
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Study



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