

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia fimbriata A.Cunn. ex G.Don



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

Common Name

Fringed Wattle, Brisbane Golden Wattle, Eprapah Wattle (the entity formerly called *A. perangusta*)

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in eastern Australia mainly in coastal and adjacent tableland areas from near Nerriga, N.S.W., N to near Yeppoon, Carnarvon Natl Park and Ravenshoe, Qld.; it is incipiently naturalised in Vic. A similar disjunction pattern involving N.S.W. and Qld occurs also in *A. falcata* and *A. falciformis*.

Description

Shrub or tree to c. 7 m high. Branchlets slender, with indumentum of short, spreading to appressed hairs often confined to the fine ribs, sometimes glabrous. Phyllodes linear to narrowly oblong-elliptic or narrowly lanceolate, usually 2–5 (–8) cm long and (1–) 2–5 mm wide with l:w = 5–25 or more, thin-textured, acute to obtuse-mucronulate, thin, sparsely to densely fimbriolate with appressed hairs, sometimes glabrous; midrib fine; lateral nerves few and obscure; glands 1, rarely 2, ± prominent but usually not or only slightly exerted, with the lowermost 1–6 (–17) mm above pulvinus. Inflorescences racemose; raceme axes 1.5–7.5 cm long, slender, glabrous or hairy; peduncles 1.5–5 mm long, slender, glabrous or hairy; heads showy, globular, 8–20-flowered, usually bright golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals c. 3/4-united, often partially separating with age. Pods to 8 cm long, 5–9 mm wide, firmly chartaceous, commonly pruinose, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, oblong-elliptic, 4–5 mm long, subshiny, black; aril clavate.

Habitat

Favours moist sites near streams and on margins of light rainforest, and occurs on hillsides as an understorey in eucalypt woodland or open forest.

Specimens

Qld: 8–10 km NE of Byfield State Forest area, *G.N.Batianoff 509* & *T.J.McDonald* (BRI); Erapah Ck, c. 5 km W of Victoria Point, *L.Pedley 798* (BRI); Blackdown Tableland, *B.Golding 9* (BRI); Burrum R., *C.T.White 6286* (BRI). N.S.W.: 6.4 km by road E of Deepwater, *E.F.Constable 7082* (NSW, PERTH); Bolivia Hill, 37 km S of Tenterfield on New England Hwy, 4 Jan. 1969, *M.Tindale s.n.* (NSW, PERTH). Vic: Edge of Taradale township, 10 Aug. 1999, *I.C.Clarke s.n.* (MEL 2063888).

Notes

Common in cultivation where it sometimes hybridises with *A. macradenia* (sect. *Phyllodineae*) and possibly *A. chrysotricha* (sect. *Botrycephalae*). A dwarf cultivar is recognized for *A. fimbriata*, see E.Brueggemeier, *Australian Plants* 25: 264 (2010) for description and photograph.

A variable species, especially in phyllode dimensions and indumentum density, *vide* L.Pedley, *Austrobaileya* 1: 284 (1980). *Acacia perangusta* which was recognized by B.R.Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11A: 309 (2001) is here treated as conspecific with *A. fimbriata* following L.Pedley, *Austrobaileya* 6: 983 (2004). This glabrous entity which is characterized by very narrow, glabrous phyllodes and exerted gland located 7–17 mm above pulvinus is commonly cultivated as an ornamental in south-eastern Qld. Glabrous individuals of *A. fimbriata* are uncommon and not considered worthy of formal rank. One Qld specimen (from between Yarraman & Nanango, *W.J.F.McDonald 1585*, BRI) has atypically short phyllodes, c. 1 cm long. The flower-heads are normally light golden to mid-golden, but a variant with cream flower-heads is known from a population of otherwise normal coloured individuals in the Blue Mtns, N.S.W. (e.g. *B.R.Maslin 5888A*, PERTH). Plants from Darling Downs, Qld, have much brighter coloured flower-heads than coastal plants within that State, *vide* B.A.Lebler, *Wildfl. SE Queensland* 2: 63 (1981).

G.Bentham, *Fl. Austral.* 2: 371 (1864), treated *A. fimbriata* as conspecific with *A. prominens* and also included elements of it under *A. linifolia*. J.H.Maiden, *Forest Fl. New South Wales* 5: 29, 34, 61–65, pl. 157 (1911) and V.S.Summerhayes, *Bot. Mag.* 155: t. 9256 (1931) discussed the confusion surrounding these three names. *Acacia prominens* is commonly a taller plant than *A. fimbriata* and has phyllodes which are 5–12 mm wide, grey-green to glaucous (green to greyish green in *A. fimbriata*), never fimbriolate and possessing more prominent glands which are generally further removed from the pulvinus. *Acacia linifolia* is distinguished by its glabrous phyllodes 0.8–2.5 mm wide, gland 5–15 mm above the pulvinus and 6–12-flowered, creamy yellow heads.

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



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

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