

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia glaucocaesia Domin



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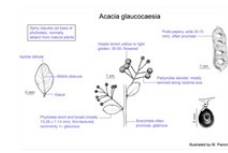
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See illustration.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Known only from a few scattered localities in the western part of the Pilbara region mainly between the Fortescue and De Grey Rivers, including North Turtle Is., north-western W.A. A sterile specimen with persistent, spinose stipules, collected from a regrowth population at Salt Ck, between Port Hedland and Broome (*B.R.Maslin* 4874, PERTH), is tentatively referred to this species: see *B.R.Maslin, Nuytsia* 8: 298 (1992), for discussion.

Description

Glabrous shrub or tree 2–4 (–7) m high. **Branchlets** usually **pruinose**. **Stipules** spiny and slender (young plants), generally absent from mature plants where they are represented by minute tooth-like projections at the nodes. Phyllodes commonly **elliptic** to narrowly **elliptic** or **lanceolate**, 1.3–2.8 (–3.5) cm long, (5–) 7–13 (–17) mm wide, l:w = 1.5–3, thin, **rounded-obtuse**, commonly **glaucous** to **sub-glaucous** and lightly to moderately **pruinose**, rarely dark green, **midrib** not prominent, finely **penninerved**; **gland** 0–1 mm above the **pulvinus**, 0.3–0.5 mm long. Inflorescences **racemose** (with **axes** 1–6 cm long) as in *A. victoriae*, some **simple** as in *A. synchronica*; peduncles mostly twinned, 7–10 (–13) mm long, slender, with **caducous bract** above middle; heads prolific, **globular**, 35–50-flowered, lemon yellow or light golden. Flowers **5-merous**; sepals free. Pods **narrowly oblong**, to 4 cm long, 9–13 mm wide, **chartaceous**, **pruinose**. Seeds transverse, **oblong** to **ovate**, 4.5–5 mm long, slightly shiny, brown to black; **funicle** thick, scarcely arillate.

Phenology

Flowers July–Oct.

Habitat

Grows in sandy loam on flood plains and commonly forms almost monospecific stands.

Specimens

W.A.: Mardie Stn, *C.A.Gardner* 3079 (PERTH); Karratha–Port Hedland area, *P.Glennon* 13 (PERTH); 2.8 km W of Goldsworthy turn-off on North West Coastal Hwy, *L.Thomson* LXT 1183 (PERTH).

Notes

The taxonomic status of this poorly collected species is uncertain. A member of the '*A. victoriae* group', but is perhaps better placed within *A. victoriae* from which it differs mainly in more flowers per head, slightly shorter and less elongate phyllodes, and stipules consistently absent from mature nodes, *vide* B.R.Maslin, *loc. cit.* Sympatric with *A. synchronica* (another member of the '*A. victoriae* group') with which it putatively hybridizes near Cleaverville (between Karratha and Roebourne). *Acacia synchronica* has a more open growth habit, golden flower-heads, and thicker, commonly narrower and longer phyllodes with normally more prominent glands. Broad phyllode forms of *A. synchronica* from the eastern Pilbara area are sometimes confused with *A. glaucocaesia*.

Non-pruinose forms of *A. glaucocaesia* occur in some populations, usually at a low frequency. They are characterized by lime green stems and branches, and dark green phyllodes.

FOA Reference

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

Author

Edited by B.R.Maslin

B.R.Maslin

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



Australian Government
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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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