

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia jennerae Maiden



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Source: Australian Plant Image Index (a.31112).
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Image courtesy of Northern Territory Herbarium



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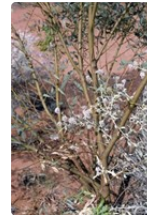
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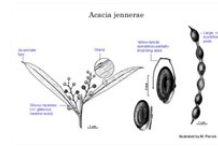
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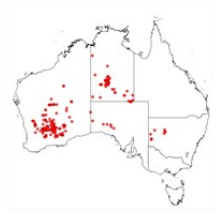
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Acacia jennerae occurrence map.
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living
Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

Common Name

Coonavittra Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Sporadic in arid and semi-arid areas from near Kununoppin, W.A., through S.A. and N.T. to Wilcannia, N.S.W., and the Simpson Desert in far SW Qld.

Description

Shrub or tree 2–6 m high, often clonal. Bark red-brown to light brown. Branchlets glabrous. Phyllodes normally patent to inclined, narrowly elliptic to narrowly oblanceolate, ±straight, 5–11 (–15) cm long, 5–15 mm wide (lower ones sometimes 25 mm wide), short- or long-acuminate, thin, grey-green to glaucous, glabrous, with prominent midrib, finely penninerved; glands not prominent, (1–) 2 or 3, with the lowermost normally 3–10 mm above pulvinus. Raceme axes 1–4 (–6) cm long, often flexuose, usually ±glabrous; peduncles 2–7 mm long, slender, with indumentum as on raceme axes; heads globular, 20–30-flowered, light golden; bracteoles normally golden-fimbriolate. Flowers 5-merous; sepals c. 5/6-united. Pods moniliform to submoniliform, to 15 cm long, 6–8 mm wide, thinly coriaceous to firmly chartaceous, dark brown to blackish, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, oblong, 6–8 mm long, dull, black; funicle sometimes 3/4 encircling seed, yellowish; aril ±clavate.

Phenology

Flowers Jan.–Aug., but mainly Mar.–July.

Specimens

W.A.: Mt Stevens, 10 km due NNE of Kununoppin, B.R.Maslin 4459 (PERTH); 32 km E of Southern Cross, P.G.Wilson 4043 (K, NSW, PERTH). N.T.: Nabbyerby Stn, P.K.Latz 5937 (PERTH). S.A.: Simpson Desert, R.W.Purdie 2823 (CANB). Qld: Simpson Desert, 100 km W of Birdsville, 13 Aug. 1999, P.Connelly (BRI). N.S.W.: 23.25 km S of Coonavittra Tank on Wilcannia–Cobar road, G.M.Cunningham 5401 (PERTH).

Notes

Acacia jennerae is regarded as a member of the '*Acacia microbotrya* group' even though its funicle differs from most other members of the group. It is yellowish,

short and either extends to just below the seed in a single fold or 3/4-encircles the seed but then is not reflexed back upon itself as occurs in *A. microbotrya*.

In the past the species has commonly been confused with *A. microbotrya*; their ranges overlap in the Burakin-Trayning area, W.A. *Acacia jennerae* is normally distinguished by its straighter phyllodes with more numerous glands (the lowermost 1–10 mm above the pulvinus) and its funicle. It is also related to *Acacia* sp. Kalannie (B.R.Maslin 7706), *A. brumalis* (especially Variant 2 of that species) and *A. confluens*, and is also similar to *A. chrysella* (Variant 2).

Acacia jennerae often has the habit of a small mallee eucalypt on account of its bushy, normally multistemmed habit and its bark and phyllode characters. Apart from its funicle (see below) the species is normally recognised by its ±glabrous raceme axes and peduncles and its rather spreading, ±straight, grey-green to glaucous phyllodes which commonly have 2 glands on their adaxial margins and which end in discrete, acuminate points. A few specimens are unusual in having relatively dense, pale yellow, appressed-puberulous raceme axes and peduncles or scarcely acuminate phyllodes or consistently uniglandular phyllodes: their status needs to be reassessed.

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 & J.Rogers

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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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