

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia lunata G.Lodd.



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Source: Australian Plant Image Index (dig.4927).
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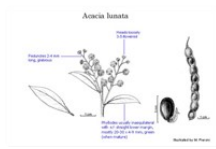
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See illustration.



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

Common Name

Lunate-leaved Acacia

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs from Putty and Cessnock S to Richmond and Dural, and at Bralga Tops, N.S.W.

Description

Shrub 1–3 m high. Branchlets glabrous. Phyllodes on short stem-projections, usually inequilaterally oblanceolate to narrowly elliptic with the abaxial margin \pm straight and adaxial margin curved, (1.5–) 2–3 (–3.5) cm long, (2.5–) 4–9 mm wide, l:w = 3–5, acute to obtuse, excentrically mucronate, thin, green, glaucous to subglaucous when young, glabrous or few marginal hairs near base; midrib not prominent and slightly or obviously towards adaxial margin; lateral nerves obscure; gland not prominent, 2–6 mm above pulvinus. Inflorescences racemose, prolific in upper axils; raceme axes mostly 2–4 cm long, glabrous; peduncles 2–4 mm long, glabrous; heads globular, 5–6 mm diam. at anthesis (fresh), loosely 3–5-flowered, bright golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united. Pods narrowly oblong, to 6 cm long, 6–8 mm wide, firmly chartaceous to thinly coriaceous, pruinose especially on convexities over seeds, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, ovate, 4 mm long, dull, black; aril clavate.

Habitat

Usually grows in sand on sandstone, often on slopes near creeks, in *Eucalyptus* open forest.

Specimens

N.S.W.: Colo Heights–Upper Colo, 25 Aug. 1959, *E.F.Constable s.n.* (NSW, PERTH); Cessnock, *V.C.Davis 7342/16* (NSW); Dural–Rouse Hill road, 30 Oct. 1956, *O.D.Evans* (NSW, PERTH); The Putty Rd, 9 km S of the Putty turn-off towards Windsor, *B.R.Maslin 5937* (MEXU, NSW, PERTH); Bralga Tops, Glenrock Stn, Upper Barnard R., 4 Sept. 1980, *J.C.Turner* (NSW).

Notes

The phyllodes of *A. lunata* are normally similar to those of *A. semilunata* in being on short stem-projections and inequilaterally oblanceolate to narrowly elliptic with the abaxial margin \pm straight and the adaxial margin shallowly convex. However, sometimes a few phyllodes, rarely all of them, have a convex abaxial margin and consequently the marked asymmetry is lost. Specimens with symmetrically oblanceolate or elliptic phyllodes are distinguished from *A. leucoblia* and *A. buxifolia* by their 3–5-flowered heads.

Acacia semilunata is recognised especially by its pubescent, terete branchlets (angled towards extremities in *A. lunata*), 15–20-flowered heads and linear pods 4–5 mm wide.

G.Bentham's *Fl. Austral.* 2: 373 (1864) concept of *A. lunata* included *A. leucoblia* (syn. *A. dealbata* A.Cunn., *A. brevifolia* G.Lodd. & *A. oleifolia sens. Benth.*), a taxon now regarded as a distinct species. Bentham is followed here in regarding *A. falcinella* Tausch as conspecific with *A. lunata*, but without examining the type it is difficult to be sure what this name refers to.

J.H.Maiden, *Forest Fl. New South Wales* 5: 78–85, pl. 165 (1911), treated *A. lunata* as conspecific with *A. buxifolia* (see *A. buxifolia* for discussion of these two species and *A. leucoblia*). It should be noted that Maiden's illustration of the plant he considered to be typical *A. lunata* contains two significant inaccuracies, namely, the flowers per head are too numerous and the phyllode midribs are shown as centrally situated.

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

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



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy



Department of
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and Attractions
Western Australian Herbarium



**Australian
Biological
Resources
Study**



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