Acacia oraria F.Muell.

**Family**

Fabaceae

**Distribution**

Occurs in several disjunct areas along the eastern coast of Qld N of 22°S latitude, extending inland N of the Atherton Tableland. Also recorded from Flores and Timor, fide L.Pedley, Contrib. Queensland Herb. 18: 6 (1975).

**Description**

Spreading tree 3–10 m high. Bark fibrous, fissured. Branchlets white scurfy. Phyllodes inequilaterally obovate-oblancoolate to narrowly elliptic, 4.5–8 cm long and or rarely a few to c. 10 cm, 1.5–3.5 (~4.5) cm wide, rounded-obtuse, glabrous, scurfy when young, with 3 or more distant main longitudinal nerves (the lowermost sometimes confluent with the lower margin at the base), prominently reticulate between main nerves; gland basal. Inflorescences axillary or sometimes terminal 3–5-branched racemes; raceme-axes 8–18 mm long, scurfy; peduncles 4–11 mm long, scurfy; heads globular, scurfy in bud, ±5 mm diam., 30–45-flowered, cream to pale yellow. Flowers 5-merous; sepals 1/4–1/2-united. Pods openly coiled to twisted, to 12 cm long, 1–1.5 cm wide, scurfy, margins prominent. Seeds longitudinal, ±4 mm long; areole closed; aril/funicle (3/4–) wholly encircling seed, red or orange.

**Habitat**

Grows in sand along beaches and inland along streams.

**Specimens**

Qld: Trinity Beach, Cairns, J.R.Maconochie 1713 (BRI n.v., DNA n.v., PERTH); between Cooktown and Lakeland, c. 21 km from Lakeland, J.Moriarty 231 (FRI n.v., PERTH).

**Notes**

In coastal areas of Qld the aril is red whereas further inland it is greenish orange.

Related to *A. webbii* and seemingly also to *A. melanoxylon*.

**FOA Reference**


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