

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia pachycarpa* F.Muell. ex Benth.



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Image courtesy of Northern Territory Herbarium



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See illustration.



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

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Distributed mainly in the Tanami Desert region, W.A. and adjacent west-central N.T. where it often forms single-species communities; scattered populations occur W near Telfer Mining Centre and also on Munderoo Stn and Yanrey Stn (near Onslow), W.A.

### Description

Tree 3–6 m high, shrubby, with weeping habit. Branchlets glabrous. Phyllodes broadly linear to very narrowly elliptic,  $\pm$ falcate, 13–34 cm long, (3–) 6–20 mm wide, acuminate to caudate-acuminate, coriaceous, glabrous or  $\pm$ appressed-puberulous (especially when young), with 1–5 distant main nerves; minor nerves obscure, numerous, and normally longitudinally anastomosing. Inflorescences simple, 1 or 2 per axil; peduncles 2–22 mm long, glabrous; spikes 3–6 cm long,  $\pm$ 1 cm diam., interrupted, cream. Flowers 5-merous, large (3 mm long); sepals united; calyx  $\pm$ truncate. Pods narrowly oblong, biconvex, to 15 cm long and 2 cm wide, woody, finely longitudinally wrinkled,  $\pm$ shiny, yellowish brown, glabrous. Seeds transverse, broadly elliptic, 5–9 mm long, dull, brown, not obviously arillate.

### Phenology

Flowering time variable.

### Habitat

Grows commonly along drainage lines in clay depressions and clay pans but also in sandy alluvium along creeks and in sandy loam.

### Specimens

W.A.: c. 40 km S Telfer Mining Centre on track to Rudall R., *E.M.Goble-Garratt 111* (BRI, PERTH); Munderoo Stn, near Onslow, *A.A.Mitchell 729* (BRI, PERTH). N.T./W.A.: Sturt Ck, *F.Mueller 7* (K, MEL) & 92 (K, MEL). N.T.: 40 km W of Supplejack HS, *P.K.Latz 8122* (AD, BRI *n.v.*, CANB *n.v.*, DNA *n.v.*, NSW, DNA *n.v.*, PERTH); swamp S of Tanami, *J.R.Maconochie 2457* (AD *n.v.*, CANB *n.v.*, DNA *n.v.*, PERTH).

### Notes

Possibly related to *A. cuthbertsonii*.

A relatively fast growing species that regenerates from coppice growth and from seed, it also root sucker after fire or other disturbance. Useful as a fodder and has potential as an ornamental in arid areas but the latter use is limited by the foetid, 'gidgee'-like odour of the vegetative parts and the flowers, similar to that of *A. cambagei* and *A. georginae*.

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