

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia polifolia* Pedley



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See illustration.



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

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Confined to the Great Divide from the Jericho–Tambo area E to Mt Morgan and near Biloela, Qld.

### Description

Shrub or tree to 5 m high. Branchlets moderately to densely appressed-puberulous with straight silvery-white hairs. New shoots light golden appressed-puberulous. Phyllodes narrowly elliptic, oblanceolate or narrowly oblong to  $\pm$ linear, 4–10 cm long, 3–8 (–12) mm wide, acute or obtuse-mucronate, thin, moderately to densely appressed-puberulous with silvery white hairs, 1-nerved per face; lateral nerves obscure; gland not prominent, 1–2.5 (–3) cm above pulvinus. Inflorescences racemose; raceme axes 2–6 cm long, appressed-puberulous with predominantly light golden hairs; heads globular, 15–20-flowered, bright lemon yellow to golden; peduncles 2–5 mm long, appressed-puberulous with silvery white to light golden hairs. Flowers 5-merous; sepals c. 2/3-united; ovary glabrous. Pods to 8 cm long, 8–11 mm wide, firmly chartaceous to thinly coriaceous, pruinose, glabrous, dehiscing unilaterally. Seeds longitudinal, oblong-elliptic to slightly ovate, 4–5 mm long, slightly shiny, black; aril clavate.

### Habitat

Normally grows in shallow sand on sandstone, in *Eucalyptus* or *Angophora* forest or woodland.

### Specimens

Qld: Jericho, June 1913, J.L.Boorman (NSW, PERTH); Blackdown Tableland, c. 32 km SE of Blackwater, R.J.Henderson, L.Durrington & P.Sharpe 989 (BRI); Callide Open Cut, c. 25 km NE of Biloela, L.A.S.Johnson 7125 & B.G.Briggs (BRI, NSW); Upper Maranoa R., c. 100 km NW of Injune, I.R.Telford 5842 (BRI).

### Notes

The concept of *A. polifolia* is here expanded to include specimens from Blackdown Tableland, Mt Morgan and Callide Valley which L.Pedley, *Austrobaileya* 1: 284 (1980), included within *A. pubicosta*. The Blackdown Tableland and Mt Morgan specimens have acute, especially narrow, elongate phyllodes (5–10 cm long, 3–5 mm wide, l:w = 12–26) and thus may superficially resemble *A. pubicosta*; the Callide Valley flowering specimen (phyllodes 7–8 cm long, 7 mm wide, l:w = 10–11) is close to Pedley's original concept of *A. polifolia*. As currently defined, *A. pubicosta* differs by having silvery white, appressed pubescence on new shoots, raceme axes and commonly peduncles, phyllodes  $\pm$ glabrous or more commonly appressed-puberulous on midribs, a gland 5–10 mm above pulvinus, white or cream-coloured flower-heads and glabrous, blackish pods.

*Acacia polifolia* is readily distinguished from *A. barringtonensis* and its allies from N.S.W. by the golden coloured indumentum as noted above. It is sometimes sympatric with *A. decora* which commonly has a similar indumentum on its raceme axes and peduncles; in the field these two species may be confused with *A. deuteroneura*.

### FOA Reference

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

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Minor edits by B.R.Maslin & J.Rogers

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



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Study



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