Acacias of Australia

Acacia pravissima F.Muell.

Common Name
Oven(s) Wattle, Wedge-leaf Wattle, Tumut Wattle

Family
Fabaceae

Distribution
Occurs in south-eastern Australia in the higher parts of the Great Divide from near Tumut, N.S.W. and Cotter R., A.C.T., to the Strathbogie Ra. and Macalister R., Vic.

Description
Shrub or tree usually (0.5–) 3–8 m high; branches slender and spreading or arching gracefully. Branchlets ribbed, glabrous or hirsutellous. Phyllodes crowded, on short stem-projections, markedly inequilateral, generally obdeolate with adaxial margin conspicuously rounded with the proximal edge ±parallel to branchlet, 7–12 (~16) mm long, 5–14 mm wide, mucronate, green to grey-green, glabrous, imperfectly 2-nerved; midrib near abaxial margin and a lesser nerve above it; lateral nerves indistinct; gland prominent, 1.5–5.5 (~9.5) mm above base, sometimes similar to A. kettlewelliae. Inflorescences prolific, racemose; raceme axes longer than phyllodes, glabrous or hirsutellous; peduncles 2–5 mm long, slender, glabrous; heads globular, 5–6 mm diam. (dry), 8–12-flowered, golden. Flowers 5-merous; sepals united. Pods narrowly oblong, to c. 8 cm long, 6–9 mm wide, firmly chartaceous, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, oblong to ovate, 3.5–5 mm long, dull, black; aril clavate.

Habitat
Usually grows near streams or in moist sheltered sites, often in open Eucalyptus forest.

Specimens
N.S.W.: near Tumut to the Yarrangobilly Caves, Feb. 1897, E.Betche s.n. (NSW). A.C.T.: between Bulls Head and Bendorra Dam, Cotter R. district, R.Pullen 3859 (NSW). Vic.: near Paradise Falls, c. 13 km SSE of Whitfield, F.E.Bienvenu P22 (PERTH); Magilton Ck, 2.4 km NW of Strathbogie, H.I.Aston 658 (MEL).

Notes
At Paradise Falls, north-eastern Vic., A. pravissima hybrids with both A. kettlewelliae and the Mt Typo variant of A. boormanii. These hybrids are recognised by the following characters: phyllodes slightly inequilateral, narrowly elliptic, acute to subacute, 17–30 mm long, 4–10 mm wide, the second longitudinal nerve (when developed) obscure and normally intersecting the gland. They resemble A. semibinervia (which is possibly a garden hybrid involving A. pravissima and A. vestita) or
sometimes *A. buxifolia* subsp. *buxifolia*.

Sometimes superficially resembling *A. cultriformis* which has commonly longer, grey-green to glaucous phyllodes and globular to shortly cylindrical, 13–40-flowered heads.

The dwarf variant from Splitters Ck, Vic., noted under *A. pravissima* by B.R. Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11A: 331 (2001) is now described as *A. nanopravissima*. Other dwarf taxa, *A. infecunda* and *A. tabula* also occur at Splitters Ck.


**FOA Reference**


**Author**

Revised by B.R. Maslin

B.R. Maslin

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


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