

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia ryaniana Maslin



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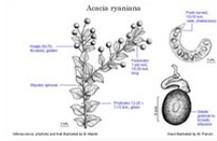
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See illustration.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Restricted to coastal areas between Carnarvon and Coral Bay, W.A. Uncommon where it occurs.

Description

Prostrate or low-domed **shrub** to 0.3 m high. **Branchlets** normally **pruinose** and **glabrous**, occasionally hairy. **Stipules** **spinose**, 2–6 mm long, sometimes with only bases persisting. **Phyllodes** **ovate** or **elliptic** to narrowly **elliptic**, 12–25 mm long, (5–) 7–15 mm wide, l:w = 1.2–3, **coriaceous**, **glabrous**, 1-nerved, finely **penninerved**; basal **gland** 0–1 mm above **pulvinus**, 0.2–0.5 mm long, with sometimes an insignificant **gland** near **mucre**. **Inflorescences** **simple**, 1 per **axil**, initiated synchronously with phyllodes on new shoots; peduncles 15–30 mm long, **glabrous**, with **caducous bract** near or above middle; heads **globular**, 10 mm diam. (fresh), densely 60–70-flowered, golden. **Flowers** 5-**merous**; sepals free, narrowly **spathulate**. **Pods** **curved**, **rounded** over seeds, to 8 cm long, 10–18 mm wide, **chartaceous**, light brown or yellow-brown, **glabrous**. **Seeds** transverse to **oblique**, **globose** to broadly **elliptic**, 5–6 mm long, slightly shiny, dark brown, frequently pale-coloured near centre; **aril** narrow.

Habitat

Grows in sand over clay or limestone, on dunes and associated flats in scrub or heath, commonly with *Triodia* sp.

Specimens

W.A.: 9.6 km N of Quobba Stn, *A.S. George 10157* (CANB, PERTH, TLF); Cultivated at Karratha, seed from near Coral Bay, 15 Sept. 1983 and 7 Oct. 1983, *P. Ryan s.n.* (both PERTH).

Notes

Distinguished from other species of the '*A. victoriae* group' by its \pm prostrate habit and curved pods. Also characterised by persistent spinose stipules, short, broad phyllodes, golden heads of 60–70 flowers, non-racemose inflorescences and large seeds. At Cape Cuvier it grows near *A. chartacea*; these two species are unusual in having a minute second gland, flanked by a pair of stipule-like appendages, located near the apical mucro.

Plants in cultivation may have phyllodes to 3 cm long and tending obovate.

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 J.Rogers

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



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy



Department of
Biodiversity, Conservation
and Attractions
Western Australian Herbarium



Australian
Biological
Resources
Study



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