

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia spectabilis* A.Cunn. ex Benth.



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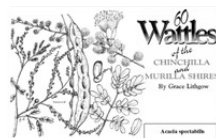
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*Acacia spectabilis* occurrence map.  
Occurrence map generated via Atlas of Living Australia (<https://www.ala.org.au>).

### Common Name

Mudgee Wattle, Pilliga Wattle, Glory Wattle

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Extends in south-eastern Qld from Eidsvold and Fraser Is. S to the Darling Downs; common in N.S.W. in the Pilliga Scrub S to Cowra and W to Condobolin, on the slopes and western plains; occasionally naturalised on the North and Central Coast of N.S.W.

### Description

Shrub or tree 2–4 (–6) m high. Bark smooth, blue-grey, grey or whitish. Branchlets  $\pm$ terete, shortly hirsute to glabrous; ridges not prominent. Young foliage-tips velvety cream-coloured to glabrous whitish green or sometimes glaucous purple. Leaves subcoriaceous, blue-green, glaucous; petiole (0.1–) 0.5–1.2 cm long, terete, often with an obscure gland at or near apex, glabrous or hairy; rachis (1–) 2–7 (–8.5) cm long, mostly eglandular, rarely with an orbicular glabrous dark gland at the insertion of apical pinnae, glabrous or hairy; pinnae 2–6 (–7) pairs, (0.5–) 1–3.5 cm long, narrowing towards base; pinnules (2–) 4–8 pairs, narrowly obovate or oblong, (5–) 7–16 mm long, 2.5–6 (–7) mm wide, glabrous, obscurely 2- or 3-nerved, with apex broadly rounded or emarginate, mostly wider than the unequally-sided base. Inflorescences in very elongated axillary racemes, or terminal or axillary false-panicles; peduncles 3–10 mm long. Heads globular, 12–20 (–35)-flowered, golden. Pods  $\pm$ straight-sided, 4–10 (–17) cm long, (8–) 10–15 (–19) mm wide, thinly coriaceous, purplish or bluish brown, black or dark brown, usually pruinose, glabrous.

### Phenology

Flowers mainly July–Nov.; fruits Nov., Dec., June.

### Habitat

Grows in open forest, woodland or heath, often associated with *Callitris* spp., in sandy or gravelly soils, on sandstone, granite or laterite.

### Specimens

Qld: 15 miles [24.2 km] W of Dalby, *N.T.Burbridge* 5462 (CANB, NSW); 22.5 km N of Miles, *R.W.Johnson* 2786 (BRI, MEL, NSW). N.S.W.: 15.4 km SW of Gooloogong School, *R.G.Coveny* 12079 & *P.Hind* (B, MEL, NSW, TL, US); 11.3 km E of Condobolin, *G.M.Cunningham* & *P.L.Milthorpe* 2095 (NSW); 69.2 km W of Cowra, *M.D.Tindale* & *J.Lanyon* (NSW101332).

### Notes

Similar to *A. polybotrya* which has jugate glands, narrower pods and smaller flower heads.

Often cultivated as an ornamental tree or shrub which is moderately frost resistant.

### FOA Reference

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

### Author

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

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



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