

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia spooneri O'Leary



Source: Australian Plant Image Index (dig.38255).

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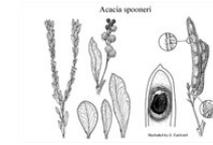


Source: Australian Plant Image Index (dig.38254).

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Source: WorldWideWattle ver. 2. Published at: www.worldwidewattle.com. See illustration.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Known from two disjunct areas 150 km apart in the Flinders Ra., S.A. It occurs in the Flinders Ra. Natl Park (at Brachina Gorge and Wilpena Pound) further S at Nectar Brook on the Winninowie Ra., SE of Port Augusta.

Description

Slender **shrub** or **tree** to 4 m high, with a spindly, open habit, normally single-stemmed. Branchlets reddish brown, **glabrous**. Phyllodes narrowly **elliptic** to **oblanceolate** or **obovate**, (2.2–) 2.5–7 (–10.2) cm long, 6–22 (–26) mm wide, size variable even on a single **branch**, **obtuse** to **acute**, **coriaceous** to thinly **coriaceous**, pale green to **glaucous**, **glabrous**; **midrib** central to slightly **excentric**, prominent; **lateral** nerves clearly visible; **gland** 1 or 2, the lowermost 0–18 mm above **pulvinus**. Inflorescences **racemose**; **raceme axes** 30–75 (–110) mm long, **glabrous**; peduncles 3–13 mm long, slender, **glabrous**; heads **globular**, 20–40-flowered, light- to mid-golden. Flowers **5-merous**; sepals united almost to their apices. Pods **linear** to **narrowly oblong**, to 8 cm long, (4–) 5–8 (–9) mm wide, firmly **chartaceous** to thinly **coriaceous**, **glabrous**. Seeds **longitudinal**, **oblong** to **elliptic**, 4–5 mm long, slightly shiny, dark brown to black; **funicle** encircling seed in a double fold, brittle, dark reddish to black; **aril clavate**.

Phenology

Flowers throughout the year with a peak in May and Aug.

Habitat

Grows on rocky ridgetops in *Callitris* pine and mallee communities over *Triodia* grassland.

Specimens

S.A.: nr The Guardians, Brachina Gorge, *E.N.S.Jackson* 165 (AD); Wilpena Pound Range, *L.Haegi* 2765 (BRI, CORD, RSA); Nectar Brook Range, *M.C.O'Leary* 2691 (AD).

Notes

A member of the '*A. microboytra* group', most closely related to *A. wattiana* and *A. quornensis*, both of which are most readily distinguished from *A. spooneri* by their fewer-flowered heads on shorter racemes and their bushy, multi-stemmed growth forms; there are also habitat differences, see M.C.O'Leary, *J. Adelaide Bot. Gard.* 20: 14 (2002), for further discussion.

This species was referred to as 'a variant of uncertain rank' under *A. wattiana* by B.R.Maslin in *Fl. Australia* 11A: 267 (2001).

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



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Australian
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Resources
Study



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