WATTLE
Acacias of Australia

Acacia suaveolens (Sm.) Willd.

Common Name
Sweet Wattle, Sweet-scented Wattle

Family
Fabaceae

Distribution
Occurs in coastal and near-coastal areas from Bustard Bay area, Qld, S through N.S.W. to Cape Otway, Vic., also Casterton to near Penola, S.A., Tas., and some Bass Strait islands.

Description
Slender, sparingly branched shrub usually 1–3 m high. Branchlets acutely angled to flat, sometimes pruinose, glabrous. Phyllodes ascending to erect, narrowly linear to linear-oblanceolate or very narrowly elliptic, frequently shallowly incurved, (4–) 7–14 (~15) cm long, (1–) 2–10 (~12) mm wide, lw = 12–25, narrowed at base, mucronate, thin to moderately coriaceous, glabrous; midrib prominent; lateral nerves absent or obscure; glands not prominent, 0–2 mm above pulvinus, normally also at base of mucro. Inflorescences 6–12-headed racemes; raceme axes 1–3 cm long, enclosed when young by conspicuous imbricate bracts; peduncles 3–5 mm long, to 10 mm in fruit, slender, glabrous; heads globular, 3–10-flowered, usually white to cream or lemon yellow; bracteoles absent. Flowers 5-merous; sepals free, narrowly linear. Pods oblong, 2–5 cm long, 1–2 cm wide, thinly coriaceous-crustaceous, purplish brown to blue-black, pruinose, glabrous. Seeds transverse, elliptic, 6–7 mm long, shiny, black; aril brown-black.

Habitat
Grows in sand or on sandstone, usually in heath or woodland.

Specimens
S.A.: Glencoe, c. 15 km NNW of Mt Gambier, R.Bates 1514 (AD). Qld: Wide Bay Military Training Area, c. 9 km NNE of Camp Kerr, L.G.Adams 3502 (BRI). N.S.W.: Pacific Hwy, 0.8 km E of Karing, R.Coveny 4878 (PERTH). Vic.: c. 10 km by road NE of Rosebud, Port Phillip Bay, B.R.Maslin 5472 (PERTH). Tas.: Circular Head, 17 Aug. 1837 and 3 Jan. 1841, R.Gunn 173/1842 (both PERTH).

Notes
Closely allied to A. subcaerulea from W.A. Similar to A. iteaphylla which has a different habit, branchlets angled only at the extremities, heads with more flowers, longer peduncles, longer, normally narrower pods and longitudinal seeds.

**FOA Reference**


**Author**

B.R.Maslin

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

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