

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia truncata (Burm.f.) Hort. ex Hoffmanns.



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See illustration.



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

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Coastal areas from Leeman S to Myalup, south-western W.A.

Description

Shrub usually dense and 0.5–2.3 m high. Branchlets ribbed, glabrous to shortly pilose. Stipules usually persistent. Phyllodes often \pm patent, cuneate to obtriangular with a prominent gland-bearing angle on adaxial margin above the middle, \pm obliquely truncate, usually 9–25 mm long and 5–13 mm wide with l:w = 1.5–2.5, scarcely pungent, glabrous; midrib \pm central. Inflorescences extremely reduced 1 (2)-headed racemes; raceme axes 0.5–1 mm long; peduncles (5–) 10–18 mm long, to 25 mm long in fruit, rather slender, glabrous; heads globular, 7–16-flowered, pale yellow. Flowers 4-merous; sepals united to near apex, with lobes broadly triangular. Pods linear, curved, to 6.5 cm long, 2–4 mm wide, crustaceous, blackish, normally \pm glabrous; margins thick, yellowish. Seeds longitudinal, oblong to elliptic, 3–3.5 mm long, shiny, brown; aril \pm clavate.

Phenology

Flowers June–Sept.

Habitat

Usually grows in shallow sand over limestone in coastal heath.

Specimens

W.A.: Swan R., *J.Drummond* 297 (BM, G, K, MEL, P, PERTH, W); Leeman, *B.R.Maslin* 4279 (PERTH); near Fremantle, *L.Preiss* 957 (FI, G, GOET, HBG, K, L, MEL, P, PERTH, STR, W)

Notes

Two variants, both with caducous stipules, occur between Fremantle and Bunbury. One grows in deep sand on coastal foredunes between Fremantle and Myalup Beach and is characterised by rather large phyllodes, to 4 cm long and 1–1.5 cm wide (e.g. *L.Preiss* 956, syntype of *A. cuneata* var. *glabra*). The other occurs in shallow sand over limestone in Tuart (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*) forest near Lakes Clifton and Preston. It grows to 3m high, commonly with an open habit, and has phyllodes longer and narrower than normal, i.e. l:w = 3.5–5 (e.g. 37.5 km S of Mandurah, *M.D.Tindale* 3917, PERTH).

Possibly one of the first two plants ever collected by Europeans in Australia, *vide* A.S.George, *W. Austral. Naturalist* 11: 173 (1971).

Acacia truncata and *A. littorea* should perhaps be treated as subspecies of the one species. However, *A. littorea* has caducous stipules and commonly shorter, ascending, pungent phyllodes. It occurs mainly S of Bunbury and flowers from Aug. to Nov. and *A. truncata* occurs N of Bunbury and flowers from June to Sept. See B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* 2: 311–321 (1978) for further details and for discussion of the nomenclature of these two taxa.

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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Minor edits by J.Rogers

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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