

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Vachellia douglasica* (Pedley) Kodela



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See illustration.



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

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Known only from the Douglas-Daly R. areas, N.T., where it occurs on cracking-clay soils.

### Description

Trees to 5 m tall. Bark corky. Branchlets with scattered straight hairs 0.3 mm long. Stipules on flowering stems, sparse, straight, 0.7–1.5 mm long, to 5 mm on young plants, often wanting on mature plants. Leaves: axis 40–75 mm long (including petiole 5–8 mm), with scattered to moderately dense hairs on the broadly sulcate surface; gland disc-like, situated between the lowest pair of pinnae; pinnae 11–22 pairs, 15–30 mm long; pinnules 20–35 pairs, oblong, 1.6–2.2 mm long, 0.5–0.7 mm wide, thick, veins obscure, glabrous or with a few marginal hairs. Heads globular, 15–30-flowered; peduncles 25–40 mm long, with scattered long hairs, involucrel in upper half. Flowers 5-merous; calyx gamosepalous; corolla 3–3.2 mm long. Pods c. 65 mm long, 10–15 mm wide, described as 'creamy-coloured', somewhat pubescent but becoming black and glabrous with age. Seeds longitudinal, oblong, c. 10 mm long, c. 9 mm wide; pleurogram prominent, open; areole large, depressed.

### Specimens

N.T.: 2 km E of Douglas R. on Ooloo rd, 13°46'S 131°22'E, M.O.Rankin 1232 (BRI, CANB, DNA, K, MEL, NSW, NT, PERTH).

### Notes

Its closest relative is *V. bidwillii* with *V. clarksoniana* more distant. It has more pinnules per pinna and the pinnules are smaller than those of *V. bidwillii*. It lacks the rather dense indumentum of *V. clarksoniana* and has smaller flowers. L.Pedley, *Austrobaileya* 6: 181 (2002), erroneously suggested that M.D.Tindale & P.G.Kodela, *Austral. Syst. Bot.* 9: 307–317 (1996), included elements of *Acacia douglasica* within their circumscription of *A. ditricha*, fide P.G.Kodela & P.G.Wilson, *Telopea* 11: 236 (2006) for discussion.

Based on molecular and other data *Acacia sens. lat.* is now considered as comprising a number of segregate genera, see J.T.Miller & D.S.Seigler, *Austral. Syst. Bot.* 25: 217–224 (2012) for overview. Many taxa in the former *Acacia* subg. *Acacia* are now referable to the genus *Vachellia*, including the one presented here. *Vachellia douglasica* was referred to by P.G.Kodela, *Fl. Australia* 11A: 202 (2001) as an undescribed species under *Acacia bidwillii*.

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



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