

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia adoxa* Pedley var. *adoxo*



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

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Widespread especially from the Barlee Ra. through the Pilbara to the southern Kimberley, W.A., with scattered occurrences in the Great Sandy Desert and an isolated record near Wyndham; also in arid western N.T.

### Description

Compact **shrub**, crowns smoky grey or blue to grey-green or blue-green. **Branchlets** densely **velvety-tomentose** with white **patent** or slightly **retorse** hairs. Phyllodes usually 6–10 per whorl and (1.5–) 2–5 (–7) mm long, **pubescent** with slightly **curved** hairs. Peduncles (3–) 6–18 mm long, **indumentum** similar to **branchlets**. Bracteoles **setose** in upper half. **Calyx** lobes and **corolla** lobes **hispid** with hairs 0.2–0.4 mm long. Pods 6–10 mm wide.

### Phenology

Flowers mostly Apr.–Sept.

### Habitat

Grows in sand (commonly lateritic) and in shallow rocky soil.

### Specimens

W.A.: 69 km W of Margaret River between Halls Creek and Fitzroy Crossing, *A.C.Beauglehole* 11139 (PERTH); base of Mt House, *W.V.Fitzgerald* 972 (NSW, PERTH); South Barlee Ra, Sept. 1959, *A.Robinson* (PERTH). N.T.: 59 km NE of Tanami, *G.M.Chippendale* NT5647 (BRI, CANB, DNA, MEL, PERTH); Vaughan Springs, *R.E.Winkworth* 413 (CANB, MEL).

### Notes

Occasionally hybridises with *A. spondylophylla* in the Pilbara region, W.A. (see *A. adoxa* × *spondylophylla*).

The variety has been generally confused with *A. lycopodiifolia* which it resembles in indumentum and habit. The arrangement of the seeds in the pod, the lack of setae on the phyllodes, and the fewer phyllodes per whorl distinguish the two taxa. A specimen labelled Port Darwin, [N.T.], *A.Forrest* (MEL) apparently has an incorrect locality. A collection from Abydos–Woodstock Reserve in the Pilbara, W.A., *K.L.Tinley* 3274 (PERTH), has unusually short hairs on its branchlets and phyllodes, and atypically short peduncles (3–4 mm long). Another Pilbara plant (*R.J.Chinnock* 9705, PERTH, from the mid-slope of Mt Meharry) is unusual in having up to 15 phyllodes per whorl which are longer than normal (10–12 mm).

This very attractive variety has horticultural potential as a ground cover, especially for rockery plantings. In some places it regenerates prolifically from seed following fire.

### 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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