

# WATTLE

## *Acacias of Australia*

### *Acacia farinosa* Lindl.



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

### Common Name

Mealy Wattle

### Family

Fabaceae

### Distribution

Occurs in the Eyre and Yorke Peninsulas, Kangaroo Is. and south-eastern S.A., extending into western Vic.

### Description

Rounded shrub 1–2 m high. Branchlets terete with low ridges, glabrous or sub-glabrous, appressed-puberulous at the nodes. New shoots often mealy white. Phyllodes ascending, oblanceolate to linear-oblanceolate, mostly shallowly incurved, rarely some or all straight, (1–) 2–7 cm long, (1–) 2–6 (–7) mm wide, with rounded-obtuse apex, callose-mucronulate, rigid, thick and ±fleshy, appressed-puberulous on pulvinus and blade-base otherwise glabrous, with 2–7 immersed to slightly raised distant main nerves and the venules often appearing as irregular incomplete lines, often with few anastomosing secondary nerves on broadest phyllodes; gland 2–9 mm above pulvinus. Inflorescences simple; peduncles (1–) 2–4 (–5) mm long, densely white appressed-puberulous; heads globular, 3.5–4 mm diam., 7–17-flowered, golden, subtended by ±5 sterile bracteoles; bracteoles thick, ovate, acute, at or near peduncle apex, with those in heads peltate-spathulate. Flowers 5-merous; sepals free, white-resinous. Pods linear, submoniliform, shallowly to obviously curved, openly coiled or twisted upon dehiscence, to 6 cm long,

(1.5–) 2–3 mm wide, rigid, crustaceous, glabrous. Seeds longitudinal, elliptic, 3.5–4 mm long, black; funicle fleshy; aril small, apical.

#### Habitat

Grows mostly in sand and loam, in shrubland and woodland, often associated with Lerp mallee (*Eucalyptus incrassata*).

#### Specimens

S.A.: just S of Port Rickabey, *J.Z.Weber 4030* (PERTH); c. 8 km NE of Port Neill on Lincoln Hwy, *D.J.E.Whibley 1964* (PERTH). Vic.: Western Hwy c. 5 km from the S.A. border, 21 Aug. 1957, *A.J.Hicks* (MEL, PERTH).

#### Notes

Seemingly related to *A. dawsonii*. Sometimes superficially resembling *A. wilhelmiana* which is a resinous shrub and further distinguished by its yellow-puberulous peduncles that are normally arranged on short racemes. Phyllodes sometimes superficially resembling those of *A. sclerophylla* var. *sclerophylla*, which is most readily distinguished by its glabrous peduncles, and *A. ancistrophylla* var. *lissophylla* which differs significantly in having more numerous longitudinal nerves that are much closer together than those of *A. farinosa*; furthermore, neither of these two varieties have ±fleshy phyllodes like those of *A. farinosa*.

Notes on the unusual inflorescence structure are given in R.S.Cowan & B.R.Maslin, *Nuytsia* 10: 79 (1995).

#### FOA Reference

Data derived from *Flora of Australia* Volumes 11A (2001), 11B (2001) and 12 (1998), products of ABRS, ©Commonwealth of Australia

#### Author

R.S.Cowan

Edited by B.R.Maslin

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Study



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