

WATTLE

Acacias of Australia

Acacia keigheryi Maslin



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

Common Name

Keighery's Wattle

Family

Fabaceae

Distribution

Occurs in a relatively restricted area to the W and NW of the Stirling Ra., mostly between Ongerup, Boxwood Hill and N of Cape Riche, south-western W.A.

Description

Diffuse or low-domed shrub 0.3–0.5 m tall, rarely prostrate. Branches puberulous, the hairs patent to retrorsely ± appressed, sometimes dividing into short, wide-spreading, straight, rigid, innocuous or ± coarsely pungent branchlets. Stipules 0.8–2 mm long, innocuous to slightly pungent. Phyllodes in nodose fascicles of 2–5 (–8), single on new shoots, mostly oblong to narrowly oblong, oblong-elliptic or oblong-lanceolate, 3–7 (–9) mm long, 1–2 mm wide, l: w = 1.5–4, obtuse to sub-acute and innocuous, straight to shallowly incurved, ± patent to somewhat reflexed, glabrous or ± appressed-hairy mostly on margins and midrib; midrib not prominent; gland 1–2 mm above pulvinus. Inflorescences simple; peduncles (4–) 5–9 mm long, slender, strongly recurved in pod; heads globular, 3–4 mm diam., (17–) 20–28-flowered; bracteoles 1 mm long, the laminae ovate-lanceolate and c. 0.3 mm wide. Flowers 5-merous; sepals free. Pods narrowly oblong to sub-moniliform, 10–25 mm long, 3–4 mm wide, straight to curved, pure brown, normally glabrous, nerveless or obscurely reticulately nerved (nerves not longitudinally aligned). Seeds dark brown to blackish and clearly mottled dull yellow; aril dull cream.

Phenology

Flowers Aug.–Oct.; mature pods Dec.

Habitat

Grows on gentle slopes in often stony, gritty sand, sandy loam, sandy clay or clay over granite or gneiss, in very open Mallee woodland over heath scrub.

Notes

This species was noted by B.R. Maslin, *Fl. Australia* 11A: 552 (2001), as one of the variants under *A. lullfitziorum*, based on *K. Newbey 1508*. Although *A. lullfitziorum* is easily distinguished from *A. keigheryi* by its carpological characters, care is needed with non-fruiting specimens not to confuse the species. The pods of *A. lullfitziorum* are terete, 2–3 mm wide and clearly longitudinally reticulate with elongated nerve-islands, and its seeds are not mottled. Non-fruiting specimens of *A. lullfitziorum* can be recognized by their branches being normally glabrous and more numerous divided into ± pungent branchlets, and by its wider phyllodes. *Acacia lullfitziorum* has a wider geographic range than that of *A. keigheryi* and is generally normally found to the W and N of where the latter grows. See B.R. Maslin, *Nuytsia* 24: 167–168 (2014) for further discussion.

Conservation

Acacia keigheryi is listed as Priority Three under Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora.

FOA Reference

Flora of Australia Project

Author

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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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