

## *Acacia lasiocarpa* var. *lasiocarpa*

PANJANG

Benth.

**Flowering period:** May–October.

**Description:** A highly variable species ranging from a dense, low shrub to 15 cm (in exposed sites) to 1 m in protected swales. The distinctive bipinnate (divided) leaves comprise 2–6 leaflets with highly distinctive rolled margins (a distinguishing characteristic from the closely related prickly moses, *Acacia pulchella*). Stems are hairy and each leaf has two prominent spines. The seed pod is up to 10 cm long with distinctive thickened margins. Each pod produces 10 or more black seeds with a distinctive aril (food body) thought to attract seed dispersal agents.

**Pollination:** Open pollinated by a wide variety of non-specific insects.

**Distribution:** From Kalbarri to Bunbury where the species favours primary to secondary dunes and limestone outcrops usually in swales or protected by other heathland or shrubby species. Often a conspicuous species at flowering time when the plant will be covered in flowers, particularly noticeable in low coastal heathland.

**Propagation:** Grow from seed collected in November–December. Seed should be hot water treated or mildly abraded with fine sandpaper. Sow in a free-draining soil mix, keep moist, and if possible incorporate a small amount of soil taken from around the parent plant to facilitate transfer of beneficial *Rhizobium* bacteria that assist in nitrogen fixation for the plant.

**Uses in restoration:** A useful species that establishes well if protected from exposure to high winds. An attractive species flowering in winter, which may be incorporated as a focal species in restoration. Plant with other low-growing species, such as *Melaleuca systema*, *Templetonia retusa* and *Leucophyta brownii*, as panjang can easily be overgrown by more vigorous species.

**Notes:** Gloves are advisable when collecting seed to protect from the spines that cover the plant.



Habit



R. Barrett

Branches and pods



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Flowers



Distribution