PLANTS OF THE WEST COAST FAMILY: FABACEAE

Acacia truncata

ANGLE-LEAVED WATTLE

(Burm.f.) Hoffmanns

Flowering period: June-September.

Description: Open to dense, somewhat spiny, domed shrub, 0.5–2 m high, occasionally to 3 m in protected swales. Leaves distinctively wedge-shaped with a conspicuous upturned spine (stipule) at the base of the leaf. Seed pods curved, compressed, grey-black and up to 6 cm long containing up 15 small black seeds. Favours limestone outcrops, skeletal soils over limestone or secondary dunes often in mixed heath.

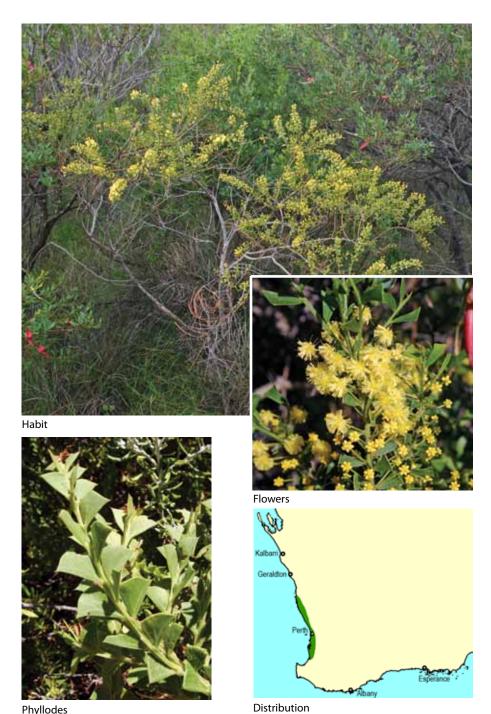
Pollination: Open pollinated by a variety of insects.

Distribution: From Dongara to Busselton. The species can be easily confused with the closely related *A. littorea* (lacks the upturned stipules and is often sharp tipped at the apex of the leaf) that also has wedge-shaped leaves. Rippey and Rowland (2004) note that the botanical status of these two species may change with further research.

Propagation: Easily propagated from seed collected in December to January when the pods begin to change colour from green to brown. Subject the seed to hot water treatment or lightly scarify with fine sandpaper. Sow in a free-draining seed-raising mix.

Uses in restoration: In mixed plantings of low shrubby species such as *Olearia axillaris*, *Scaevola crassifolia* and *Lomandra maritima*. Requires some protection from strong winds.

Notes: A useful species for planting in protected sites or the home garden with highly attractive foliage and abundant flowers.



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