

Acacia pulchella

R.Br.

PRICKLY MOSES

Flowering period: June–October.

Description: Bushy, erect, spinescent shrub, 0.5–2 m tall, taller when growing in dense vegetation and often tangled with other shrubs. Leaves small, dissected into three to eight pinnae each 1.5 mm long, flat green to slightly grey-green. Flowers 20–40 in globular clusters produced singly or up to three on 5–15 mm long stalks (peduncles) from the axil of the leaves, followed by narrow, 3–5 cm long seed pods that have a distinctive, paler and thicker margin. Seeds six to eight held longitudinally in the pods, each seed oval to cylindrical.

Pollination: Open pollinated by a wide variety of insects.

Distribution: From Geraldton to Esperance and sporadic in coastal areas; often more abundant in woodland forming dense stands in response to frequent fire.

Propagation: Propagated from seed that has been treated with boiling water to break the physically dormant seed coat. Sow in a free draining seedling mix.

Uses in restoration: As the species is infrequent in dune communities, plant only the number of plants expected in the reference community.

Notes: Prickly moses is thought to be derived from ‘prickly mimosa’ as acacia is commonly referred to as mimosa. The highly spiny nature of the plant makes it a difficult species to manage in restoration areas.



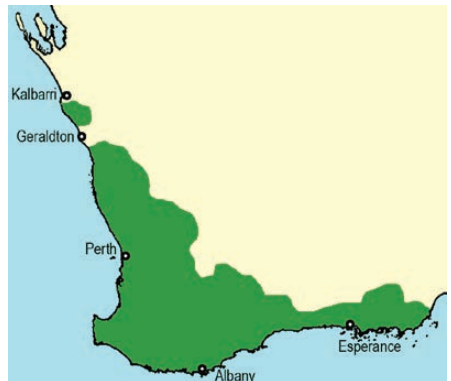
Habit



Branches



Flowers



Distribution