

The area covered by this key is Greater Brisbane— between Beenleigh, Caboolture, Ipswich and Mt Glorious and includes the Moreton Bay islands. Flowering: Sum: summer, Aut: autumn, Win: winter, Spr: spring, All year

KEY TO GROUPS

1. Bipinnate (true) leaves present on adult plants (see diagram below) **Group 5** (back page)
 1x. Only phyllodes present on adult plants (see diagram below)

2. Phyllodes less than 1.5 cm long **Group 1**

2x. Phyllodes more than 1.5 cm long

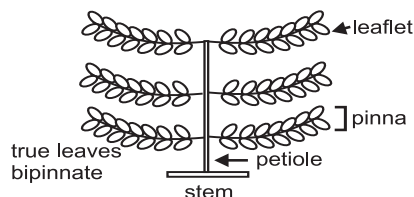
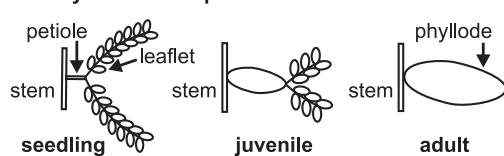
3. Phyllodes less than 3 mm wide **Group 2**

3x. Phyllodes more than 3 mm wide

4. Phyllodes with only 1 longitudinal nerve; flowers in heads (spherical) **Group 3**

4x. Phyllodes with 2 or more longitudinal nerves; flowers in heads or spikes **Group 4**

Phyllode development



GROUP 1: Phyllodes short, less than 1.5 cm long

1. Phyllodes in regular whorls of 6–9 (Spr, coastal) *Acacia baueri*

1x. Phyllodes not in regular whorls (but may be grouped)

2. Phyllodes 1.6–3.2 mm wide, with several longitudinal nerves (Win–Spr)

. *Acacia amblygona*, fan wattle

2x. Phyllodes less than 1.6 mm wide, 1 or 2 longitudinal nerves present (usually faint)

3. Phyllodes widest at base, pungently pointed; pod c. 5 mm wide (Spr)

. *Acacia ulicifolia*, prickly Moses

3x. Phyllodes widest near the middle, not pungent; pod 15–20 mm wide (Aut–Win, cultivated)

. *Acacia conferta*, crowded leaf wattle

GROUP 2: Phyllodes long and narrow, less than 3 mm wide (and more than 1.5 cm long)

1. Phyllodes 7–22 cm long (Win–Spr) *Acacia juncifolia*, rush-leaf wattle

1x. Phyllodes 2–8 cm long

2. Phyllodes quadrangular in cross-section, pungently pointed, less than 1 mm wide (Win–Spr)

. *Acacia quadrilateralis*

2x. Phyllodes flat; not pungently pointed, more than 1 mm wide

3. Phyllodes 2–4.5 mm wide, with at least a few hairs (Win–Spr, common, native and cultivated)

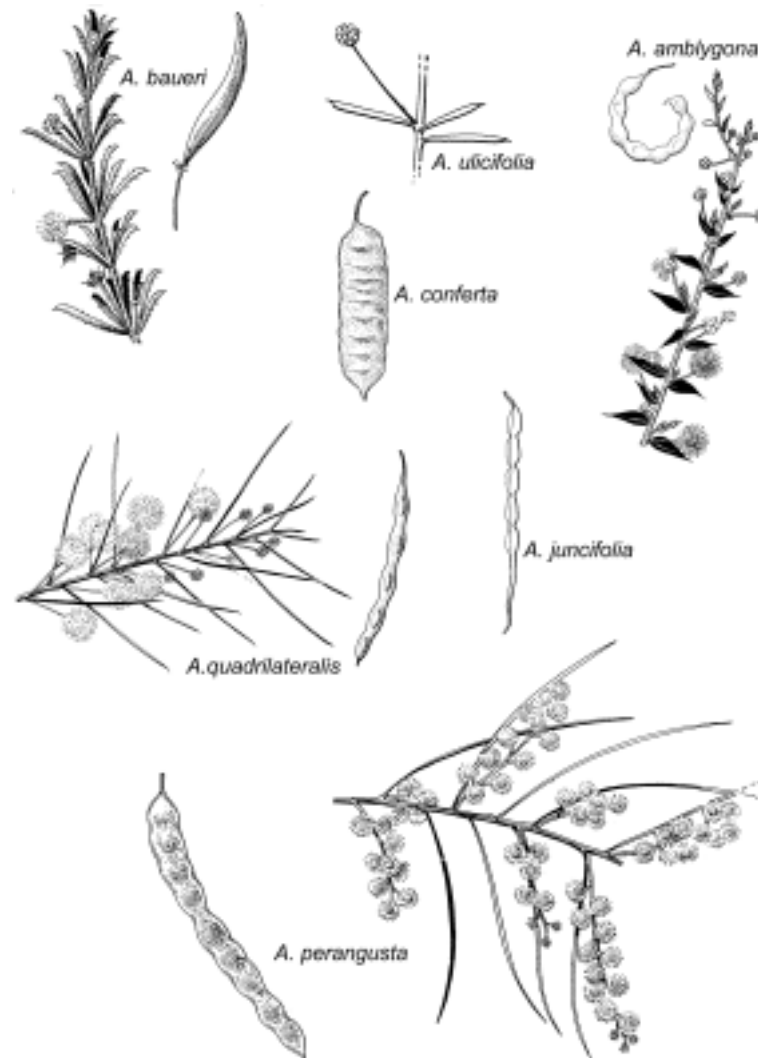
. *Acacia fimbriata*, Brisbane wattle

3x. Phyllodes 1.1–1.6 mm wide, without any hairs (Win–Spr) *Acacia perangusta*, Eprapah wattle

INSTRUCTIONS:

To use one of the following five group keys:

- start with the **key to groups**
- read the statements **1** and **1x** which offer two alternatives
- choose the statement which is most appropriate to the specimen you wish to identify
- read the two statements directly below the chosen statement, eg. **2** and **2x**
- after choosing one, go to the statement directly below the chosen statement
- continue in this way until you reach a group number
- go to this **group key** and continue the process until you reach a species name
- phyllodes from mature plants only should be used



GROUP 3: Phyllodes with one longitudinal nerve (and phyllodes more than 1.5 cm long and more than 3 mm wide); flowers in heads

1. Phyllodes 2–5 cm long

2. Phyllodes greyish, 1.5–2.5 times as long as wide, often hairy; heads of 20–30 flowers (Aut–Win, cultivated and native) *Acacia podalyriifolia*, Queensland silver wattle

2x. Phyllodes green; more than 2 times as long as wide; heads of 3–15 flowers

3. Phyllodes more than 7 mm wide; heads of 3–6 flowers (Spr, perfumed) *Acacia myrtifolia*, red-stemmed wattle

3x. Phyllodes less than 7 mm wide; heads of more than 10 flowers

4. Phyllodes hairy over most of surface; heads in phyllode axils; flowers whitish (Win–Spr) *Acacia hispidula*

4x. Phyllodes hairy only on margin or at base; heads in branched inflorescences; flowers yellow

5. Phyllodes thin, hairy on margins; gland 1–6 mm from base; pods 5–8 cm long (Win–Spr, common, native and cultivated) *Acacia fimbriata*, Brisbane wattle

5x. Phyllodes not thin, hairy only at base; gland 6–12 mm from base; pod 7–11 cm long (Win–Spr) *Acacia decora*, pretty wattle

1x. Phyllodes more than 5 cm long

6. Stipules hardened and persistent, c. 5 mm long; shrubs with zigzag branches (Spr, naturalised, cultivated) *Acacia macradenia*, zigzag wattle

6x. Stipules absent or falling, less than 1 mm long; shrubs or trees, branches not or slightly zigzag.

7. Phyllode margin indented by conspicuous gland at least 10 mm from base with a raised nerve running into the gland (Sum, common) *Acacia penninervis*

7x. Phyllodes with or without glands, if gland present than not indenting the margin and lacking a raised nerve.

8. Phyllodes on stalks 3–5 mm long; phyllodes always more than 12 mm wide with a large slit-like gland at the base (Aut–Win, common, widespread) *Acacia falcata*

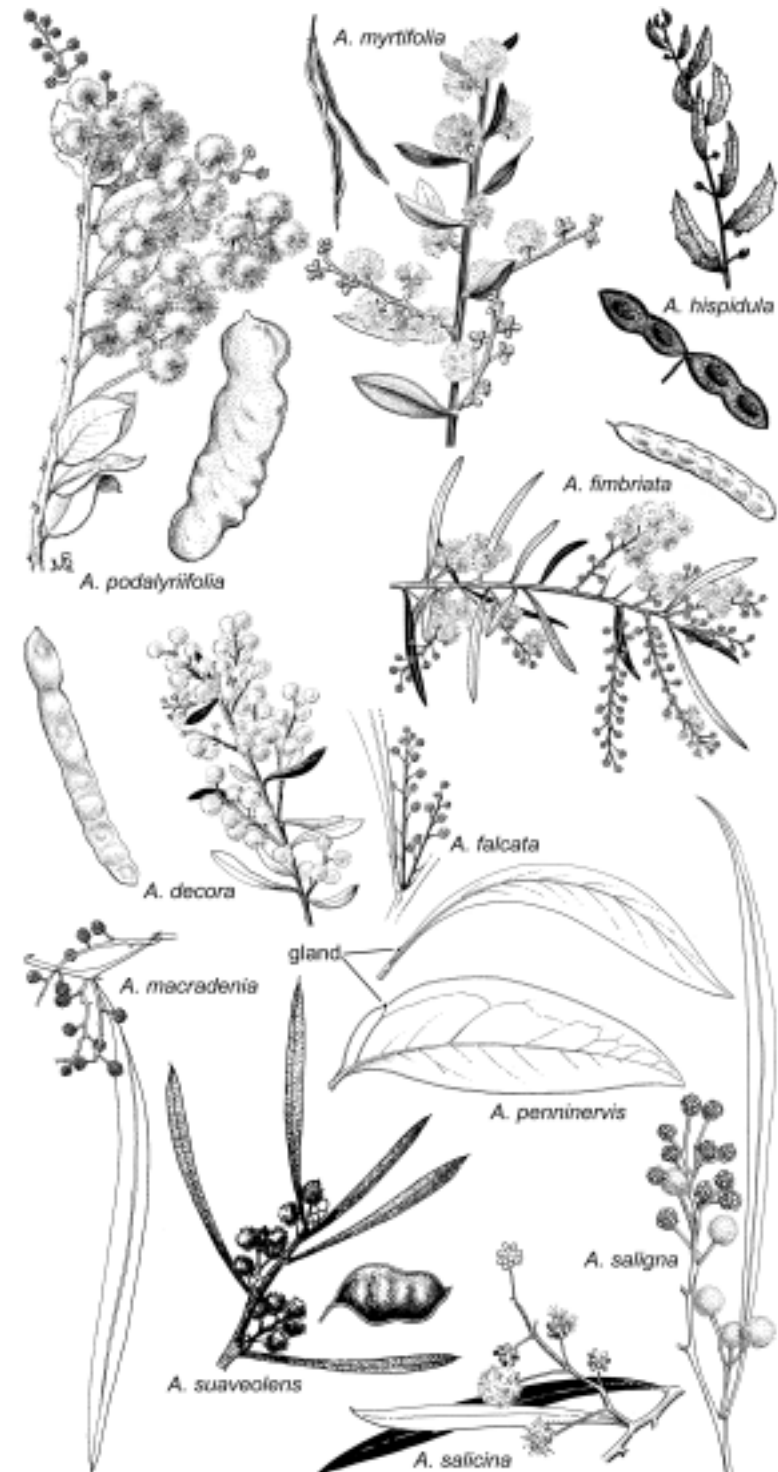
8x. Phyllodes on stalks up to 2 mm long; phyllodes usually less than 12 mm wide, gland(s) if present, small and round

9. Heads with 3–7 flowers; racemes enclosed in bracts before development (Win–Spr, coastal sandy soils) *Acacia suaveolens*, sweet wattle

9x. Heads with more than 15 flowers; racemes never enclosed in bracts

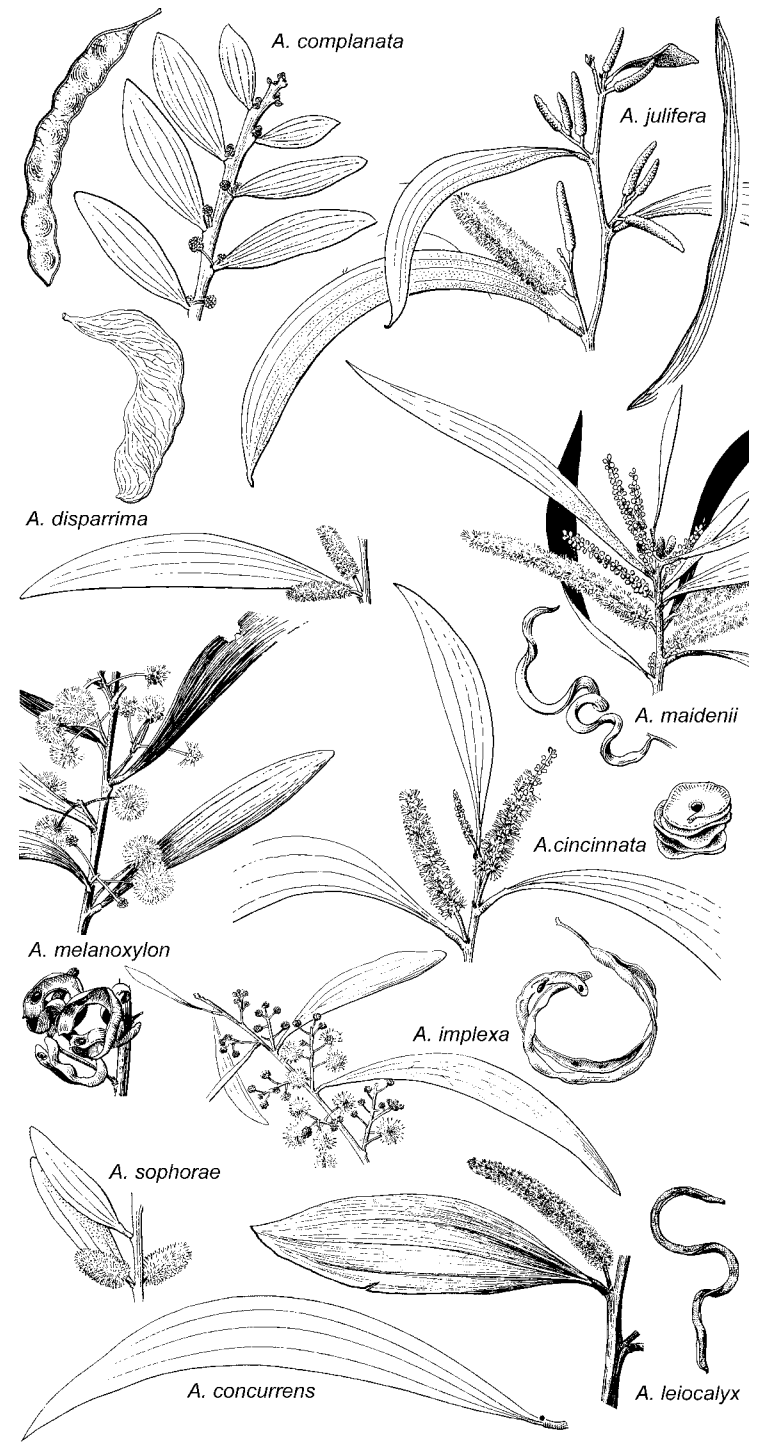
10. Phyllodes with at least 2 glands; flowers whitish (Aut–Win, widespread) *Acacia salicina*, sally wattle

10x. Phyllodes with only 1 gland; flowers yellow (Spr, cultivated, naturalised, mainly on beaches) *Acacia saligna*, golden wreath wattle



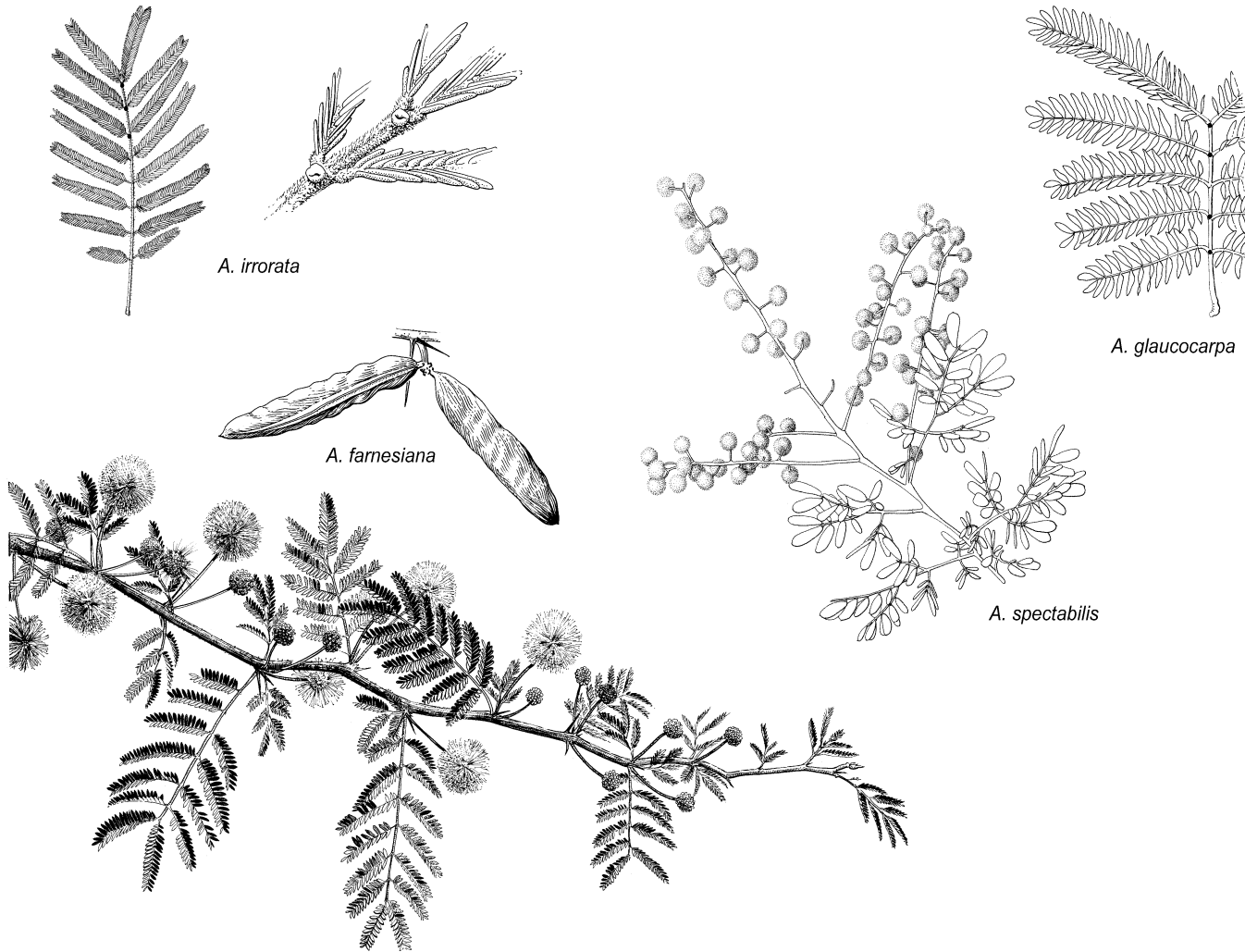
GROUP 4: Phyllodes with several longitudinal nerves (and phyllodes more than 1.5 cm long and more than 3 mm wide); flowers in heads or spikes

1. Branchlets winged and flattened; phyllodes less than 5 times as long as wide; flowers in heads, (All year) *Acacia complanata*, flat-stemmed wattle
- 1x. Branchlets not winged (but may be flattened); phyllodes more than 4 times as long as wide; flowers in spikes or heads
2. Phyllodes with parallel longitudinal nerves never joining each other, sometimes obscure
3. Phyllodes strongly curved, on stalks 2–3 mm long (Aut–Win) *Acacia julifera*
- 3x. Phyllodes slightly curved, on stalks 5–9 mm long (Sum–Aut) *Acacia disparrima* (previously included in *Acacia aulacocarpa*), hickory wattle
- 2x. Phyllodes with longitudinal nerves definitely joining, often forming distinctive elongated islands
4. Phyllodes with only 3–4 widely spaced longitudinal nerves, with a coarse reticulum between; flowers in heads (Spr, rainforests and rainforest margins) *Acacia bakeri*, marblewood
- 4x. Phyllodes with more than 4 longitudinal nerves (sometimes obscure); flowers in heads or spikes
5. Branchlets with prominent lenticels (appearing as small raised white spots), flowers in spikes (Sum–Aut, fertile soils) *Acacia maidenii*, Maiden’s wattle
- 5x. Branchlets without obvious lenticels, flowers in heads or spikes
6. Young branches golden hairy; phyllode with a large slit-like gland at base (1–1.5 mm long); pods tightly coiled, the coils fused into a flattened cylinder (Aut–Win, coastal) *Acacia cincinnata*, blackwood
- 6x. Young branches not hairy; phyllode gland small, inconspicuous; pods loosely twisted
7. Phyllodes with nerves not running into margin at base; flowers in heads (Sum, rainforest margins and creeks) *Acacia melanoxyton*, blackwood
- 7x. Phyllodes with nerves running into margin at base; flowers in heads or spikes
8. Phyllodes straight, elliptic, rounded or bluntly pointed; flower spikes without a stalk; flowers with 4 sepals (Win–Spr, coastal dunes) *Acacia sophorae*, coastal wattle
- 8x. Phyllodes curved, usually pointed; flower spikes on short stalks; flowers with 5 sepals
9. Base of phyllodes gradually tapered into the stalk; flowers in heads; pods 4–7mm wide (Sum, Mt Glorious and north, rare) *Acacia implexa*, lightwood
- 9x. Base of phyllodes broadly wedge-shaped; flowers in spikes; pods 3–4 mm wide
10. Phyllodes on stalks 3–4 mm long; young branches reddish and triangular in cross-section; calyx without hairs (Win–Spr, common) *Acacia leiocalyx*, black wattle
- 10x. Phyllodes on stalks 5–9 mm long; branches not reddish, slightly triangular in cross-section; calyx always hairy (Win–Spr, common) *Acacia concurrens*, black wattle



GROUP 5: Bipinnate leaves (true leaves) with several to numerous leaflets (adult foliage)

- 1. Plants with spines (stipular); heads 2–3 together in leaf axils; pods cylindrical (All year, naturalised)
 *Acacia farnesiana*, Mimosa bush
- 1x. Plants without spines; heads grouped together in branched inflorescences; pods flat
- 2. Leaflets less than 4 mm long; leaves with 6–16 pinnae (Sum) *Acacia irrorata*, green wattle
- 2x. Leaflets 6–12 mm long; leaves with 3–8 pinnae
- 3. 4–8 pairs of leaflets per pinna; leaflets rounded at apex (Spr, cultivated)
 *Acacia spectabilis*, Piliga or glory wattle
- 3x. 15–25 pairs of leaflets per pinna; leaflets pointed at apex (Aut–Win) *Acacia glaucocarpa*



Key to the Wattles

of Greater Brisbane

