

Mimosaceae
Acacia maidenii
Maiden's wattle



Drawing by Marion Simmons



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ETYMOLOGY

(a-KAY-sha) Greek akakia from akis = a sharp point; The species maidenii = After J.H. Maiden Sydney Botanic Gardens *Author* Govt Botanist.

LIFEFORM

Large Shrub or Small Tree 5-15m x 3-9m Spread

STATUS

Common well conserved; ROTAP 1995 list coding of 2VCi; Critically Endangered in Victoria Proserpine Qld to Illawarra NSW, Orbost Vic

OCCURS

Burnett, Darling Downs, Moreton, North/South Kennedy, Port Curtis, Wide Bay

QLD DISTRICTS

HABITAT

Subtropical/Dry Rainforest, Araucarian Microphyll/Notophyll Vine Forest

LEAVES

Alternate, 10-20 cm, sickle shaped, phyllodes 2-5 prominent veins stems 2 angled narrower thinner with one or more conspicuous long veins, (others parallel); branched close fine inconspicuous.

FLOWERS

Spikes, 6 cm, sessile, creamy/yellow single or in pairs in upper axils, calyx and stalk have golden hairs: **Flowering Times** Dec, Jan, Feb, March, April

FRUIT

Pods, 5-15 x 2-6 mm, woody, rough dark brown narrow twisted together in terete coil or irregular loose spirals: hard-coated seed, soil-stored seedbank

Fruiting Times Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec

BARK

Dark grey and deeply fissured bark with corky spots called lenticels.

STEM

Erect or spreading tree prominent on branchlets.

WILDLIFE

Stem sap eaten by Sugar glider (gum)

INSECTS

Eucrocoris tumidiceps Acacia Bug *Piesarthrius marginellus* Cerambycid beetle

MISTLETOE

Host plant for *Amyema congener*

BIRD

Fruit eaten by Australian King Parrots Common Bronzewing, Brush Bronzewing, Silvereyes, Regent bowerbirds, Brown Cuckoo-doves, Crimson Rosellas, Lewin's Honeyeaters

BUTTERFLY

Eurema hecabe Common Grass Yellow, *Polyura sempronius* Tailed Emperor, *Nacaduba biocellata* Two-spotted Line-blue, *Sahulana scintillata* Glistening Line-blue

INDIGENOUS USES

Seeds were eaten. Exudates from trunk (like gum) have been used in the past for food;

ID FEATURES

Phyllodes more than four longitudinal veins + Branchlets with prominent lenticels (small raised white spots) + Flowers in spikes