

Notes on *Acacia* (Leguminosae: Mimosoideae) in Central Australia

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Abstract

Maslin, B.R. Notes on *Acacia* (Leguminosae: Mimosoideae) in Central Australia. Nuytsia 6(1):33-34 (1987). A new name, *A. desmondii* Maslin, is provided for the later homonym, *A. nelsonii* Maslin. A new subspecies, *A. macdonnelliensis* subsp. *teretifolia* Maslin, endemic in the Rawlinson Range-Petermann Range area, is described.

Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to provide names for two taxa intended for inclusion in the forthcoming second edition of the Flora of Central Australia.

Acacia desmondii Maslin, nom. nov.

Based on *A. nelsonii* Maslin, J. Adelaide Bot. Gard. 2: 314 (1980), non Staff., J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 4: 363 (1914).

The new epithet, as with the replaced synonym, honours Desmond J. Nelson. The species is described in Maslin (1980).

Acacia macdonnelliensis Maconochie subsp. *teretifolia* Maslin, subsp. nov.

Acacia macdonnelliensis subsp. *teretifolia*; differt a subsp. *macdonnelliensis* phyllodiis teretibus.

Typus: 6 km W of Docker River, just W of the W.A./N.T. border, Western Australia, 28 June 1983, *A. Kalotas* 1570 (holo: PERTH; iso: NT).

Selected specimens examined. WESTERN AUSTRALIA: Schwerin Mural Crescent, near Rebecca Hill, *D.J. Edinger* 124 (PERTH); Bungabiddy Rockhole, Walter James Range, *A.S. George* 12071 (NT, PERTH); Rawlinson Range, c. 3 km due N of Giles Meteorological Station, *S. Midgley* 578 (PERTH).

NORTHERN TERRITORY: E of Dean Range, Learmonth Park, *A. Kalotas* 1552 (NT, PERTH); c. 11 km N of Wangkari (Mount Beartaux), *A. Kalotas* 1558 (NT, PERTH).

Distribution. Rawlinson Range (W.A.) east to the Petermann Range (N.T.). The typical subspecies occurs mainly in the Macdonnell Range, N.T., about 300 km NE of the Petermann Range with a few scattered occurrences between the two ranges; it is rare in W.A. having been recorded only from the Pollock Hills, about 250 km N of the Rawlinson Range.

Subspecies *teretifolia* is readily distinguished from subsp. *macdonnelliensis* by its terete phyllodes. Except for this character and also its often shorter racemes (1-5 mm long compared with 4-12 mm long) the new subspecies appears indistinguishable from the typical subspecies. The two subspecies grow in rocky ranges and their geographical distributions are not known to overlap.

The new subspecies is similar to *A. tenuissima* F. Muell. on account of its filiform phyllodes, spicate inflorescences and long, narrow legumes. It can, however, be distinguished in the following ways: branchlets sometimes hoary and not marked with such obvious crenulated resin-ribs, peduncles shorter, spikes longer, calyx smaller and villous, arils whitish. Descriptions of both *A. tenuissima* and *A. macdonnelliensis* are given in Maslin (1981).

References

- Maslin, B.R. (1980). *Acacia* (Leguminosae-Mimosoideae): a contribution to the Flora of Central Australia. J. Adelaide Bot. Gard. 2: 301-321.
Maslin, B.R. (1981). *Acacia*. In J. Jessop (ed.). "Flora of Central Australia." (A.H. & A.W. Reed: Sydney.)