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Plant of the Month — November 2013

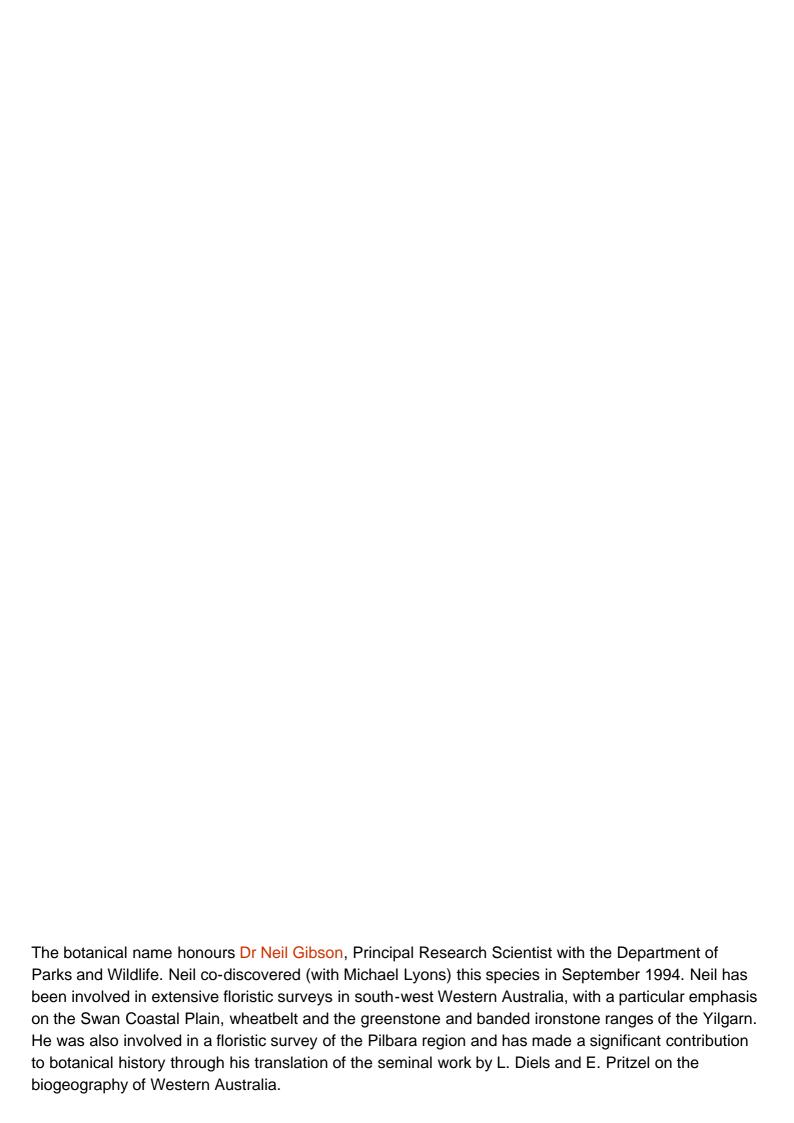
Acacia gibsonii — Gibson's Wattle



Acacia gibsonii is a new species with distinctively short, 3nerved phyllodes and short spikes, having affinity to A. incongesta R.S.Cowan & Maslin. The species is known from a

geographically very restricted area of greenstone hills between Norseman and Hyden. It was previously listed under the phrase name, *Acacia* sp. Lake Johnson (N. Gibson & M. Lyons 1959), and is a Priority One taxon under the Department of Parks and Wildlife's Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora.

This species is locally common (many thousands of plants) where it occurs; however, it has a very restricted distribution that is outside the conservation estate. It occurs on two adjacent hills within the Lake Johnston Greenstone Belt - an extensive belt of greenstone that extends c. 50 km from Round Top Hill (120 km E of Norseman) south-east to the Bremer Range (100 km SW of Norseman). This greenstone belt is comprised of series of highly metamorphosed igneous and sedimentary sequences.



Acacia gibsonii was recently described by Bruce Maslin in our journal *Nuytsia*, from which much of this text is transcribed. This revision includes a detailed taxonomic description, discussion of affinities and an image of the holotype specimen.

Photo: B.R. Maslin

Find out more about Acacia gibsonii



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