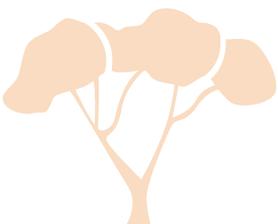




## SIGNIFICANT FLORA FACT SHEET

**In South Australia, the only known occurrences of Pickard's Wattle are near Mt Gason Bore at the northern end of the Birdsville Track, and a recently discovered further occurrence on Cordillo Downs Station to the east.**



## MOUNT GASON WATTLE, PICKARD'S WATTLE

### *Acacia pickardii*

#### IDENTIFICATION

Pickard's Wattle is at best a bushy tree to five metres tall, with pointed cylindrical phyllodes ('leaves'). More often it is seen as a spiny and woody shrub 2-3 metres tall and clumped, due to the tendency of this long-lived species to reproduce from root suckers.

It grows on silcrete gibber flats and low stony rises, often where shallow sand drifts are evident, mainly in the vicinity of the northern end of the Birdsville Track.

This species has rarely been observed flowering and is not known to produce viable seeds. Flowering is believed to occur only after rare, heavy, summer rainfalls.

#### DISTRIBUTION

Pickard's Wattle occurs in South Australia and the Northern Territory. In South Australia, the only known occurrences are near Mt Gason Bore at the northern end of the Birdsville Track, and a recently discovered further occurrence on Cordillo Downs Station to the east. In the Northern Territory, it occurs in the Simpson-Strzelecki Dunefields bioregion.

In South Australia, Pickard's Wattle is found over at least an area of 104km<sup>2</sup>, although this figure may be much higher due to the remoteness and lack of collections from that area.



Mature tree at Goyder Lagoon  
P. Barron



### Contact Us

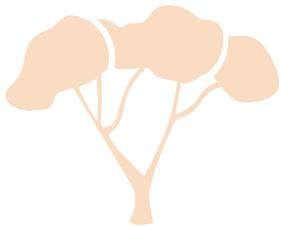
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Produced June 2010



### THREATS

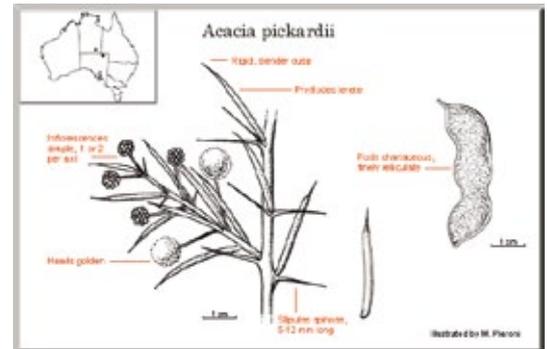
Over-grazing involving high numbers of rabbits is thought to be the major threat to this species.

With recent declines in rabbit numbers in the area following Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease, regeneration via vegetative (clonal) suckers has certainly increased.

It is thought that cattle only occasionally graze this species because of its spiky and unpalatable foliage.

With the lack of viable seed production, any influence affecting the health of established plants could significantly affect the outlook for this species.

In general, maintenance of good feral animal (rabbit) control in the vicinity of the Mt Gason population is seen to be one beneficial management option for this species.



Source : Maslin, B.R. (coordinator) (2001).  
 WATTLE: Acacias of Australia. CD-ROM.



Acacia pickardii suckers  
 P. Barron



Phyllodes ('leaves')  
 C. Ireland