

Acacia ayersiana (hybrid)

Most material referred to *A. ayersiana* (hybrid) appear to represent part of a complex mix of individuals that form an intergrade between *A. aneura* and *A. ayersiana* (see Maslin & Reid 2012: 189 for discussion). Further study is needed to properly elucidate the nature of this variation.

Salient features. Multi-stemmed shrub or tree 3–7 m tall. New shoots normally resinous and striate-nerved. Branchlets with resinous ribs most evident towards apices, resin translucent. Phyllodes mostly narrowly elliptic, infrequently linear, (5–)6–10 cm long, 2–4 mm wide, straight to shallowly incurved or sometimes shallowly recurved; margins with a discrete resinous nerve, dull and yellow except often brown or reddish and shiny on young phyllodes. Pods 6–10(–12) mm wide, winged.

Distribution. Most specimens of this putative hybrid occur in the Pilbara and Gibson Desert regions but they have also been recorded for the Central Ranges (E of Warburton) and the Murchison IBRA region on Milly Milly Station (c. 250 km N of Yalgoo).

Representative specimens. W.A.: Gibson Desert, 67 km SSE of E end of Clutterbuck Hills, *S.D. Hopper* 2906b (PERTH); Hamersley Range, West Angelas area, 19 km W of Coondewanna Hill, *B.R. Maslin* 8078d (PERTH); Milly Milly Station, 22 km NE of Erong Springs – Milly Milly Road on road to Yunda Outstation, *B.R. Maslin, J. Miller & J.E. Reid* BRM 9145A (PERTH); 12 km SSW of Mt Hilditch, Hamersley Ranges, *M. Trudgen* MET 19127 (PERTH).

(B.R. Maslin)