

Willow Wattle *Acacia salicina*

When to look:

Flowering usually
occurs February - June

Similar species:

It has historically been confused with the Dune Wattle (*Acacia ligulata*). The pendulous leaves of the Willow Wattle are the distinguishing feature - they are wider than the upright leaves of the Dune Wattle. The flower heads of the Willow Wattle are also paler in colour.

It is also similar to the Salt Wattle (*A. ampliceps*), but has pale flower heads and broader seed pods than its relative.

It can be confused with another ClimateWatch species, the River Cooba (*A. stenophylla*) - this has thinner and longer leaves however.

Has simple leaves (phyllodes) that measure up to 17cm long and around 1cm wide. Straight with a curved tip, forming a point.

Erect, evergreen shrub or small tree, 3-10m in height. Can grow up to 20m in optimum conditions.

Flowers are pale yellow or white. Clustered into groups of 15-30, forming rounded inflorescences.

Seed pods are straight or slightly curved. Measure 3-12cm long and have a woody appearance when dry. Contain black seeds with a bright red seed covering.



Images: Margaret Donald and T.M. Tame, Flickr and A J Brown