

Rush-leaf Wattle (*Acacia juncifolia*).

Showy, graceful, upright shrub with fine, rush-like foliage. Bright yellow ball flowers in spring. Grows on sandy soils in coastal and adjacent areas. Does best in full sun in well drained soils. 2-4 metres.



Zigzag Wattle (*Acacia macradenia*)

A truly beautiful wattle with pendulous, zigzag branches and curved phyllodes that are bronze-coloured when young. Bright golden flower balls in large pendulous bunches in winter. Successful in most soils and full sun. 3-4 metres.



Tall Wattles – over 4 metres

Carol's Wattle (*Acacia caroleae*)

Tall, attractive shrub with angular branchlets and straight narrow phyllodes. Dense, bright yellow, rod-like flower heads in late winter and spring. Grows on sandy soils and needs full sun. 4-6 metres.

Erapah Wattle (*Acacia perangusta*).

Desirable shrub with reddish stems and fine, graceful, weeping foliage. Pale, lime-yellow flower balls in late winter and spring. Grows in open forest and along creek banks around Brisbane. On Rare & Threatened Species List. 4-6 metres.

Qld. Silver Wattle (*Acacia podalyriifolia*)

A spectacular wattle with a dense rounded form and lovely oval-shaped silvery phyllodes. Masses of large golden ball flowers in dense clusters in winter. Broad brown attractively crinkled seed pods. Very quick growing in most soils in full or part sun. 3-5 metres.

The Wonder of Wattles

Wattles, or Acacias (to call them by their botanical name), are the best known of our Australian native plants and they form the largest genus in the country.

There are over 1100 species of acacia throughout Australia and you will find that, whatever the diversity of climate, conditions and soil, there is a wattle to fit.

They come in all sizes, from prostrate undershrubs to medium trees, although the majority are shrub size.

They make excellent garden plants and are grown not only for their beautiful flowers, but also for their enormous diversity. Being such a diverse group, they have a great variety of foliage and flower types.

A few species retain their true, bipinnate, feathery leaves throughout their lives, but most species lose these leaves and the leaf stalk becomes modified to form a leaf-like structure called a 'phyllode'.

Individual acacia flowers are tiny, but they are massed into globular heads or narrow cylindrical spikes to form spectacular floral displays. Flower colour varies from pale creamy-white to rich orange-yellow. Some are perfumed.

Wattles are very quick growing and early flowering. Although many are fairly short lived, do not let this stop you from using them, as they can perform the function of 'nursery plants' and give your garden a mature appearance while other slower species are developing. Anyway, their short lifespan allows you to continually renew your garden display with a multitude of different wattle species.

Wattles are great for wildlife, providing seeds and insects for birds and the denser shrubs provide protection and nesting sites for our smaller birds.

In this brochure we have described just a few species that have proven attractive and successful in cultivation in subtropical coastal Queensland.

Wattles are Wonderful



Acacia podalyriifolia

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Acacia pycnantha

Wonderful Wattles for the Garden

in south-east Queensland

Small Wattles - prostrate to 2 metres:

Winter Gold

(*Acacia amblygona prostrate*).

This prostrate wattle grows naturally in the Brisbane area. It is an excellent groundcover, rarely exceeding 30cm high. Dull green triangular phyllodes, stiff and sharply pointed. Round yellow balls of flowers in late winter and spring, followed by coiled seed pods. Does best in full sun and well drained soil.



Small Fringed Wattle (*Acacia fimbriata dwarf*).

Small bushy shrub with dainty, soft, light foliage. Small lemon- yellow, ball flowers in winter. Grows in open forest country. Needs well drained soil and full or dappled sunlight. 1-2 metres.



Yellow Prickly Moses (*Acacia hubbardiana*).

A small shrub, with bright green, triangular phyllodes ending in a sharp point. Pale, creamy-yellow flowers in fluffy round heads on slender stalks, usually in spring. Found in coastal areas between Brisbane and Bundaberg and is indigenous to the Glasshouse Mountains and adjoining wallum areas. An attractive plant that will grow in most situations and is tolerant of wet soils. 1-2 metres.



Sweet Wattle (*Acacia suaveolens*).

A slender shrub with few branches. Dull, grey-green, rather thick phyllodes. Fragrant, fluffy, pale yellow flower balls from autumn to spring. Distinctive large, flat, oblong, bluish-green seed pods. Found in exposed, sandy, coastal situations in eastern Australia. Needs an open, well drained, light soil and full or dappled sunlight. 1-2 metres.



Medium Wattles – 2 to 4 metres:

Baeuerlen's Wattle (*Acacia baeuerlenii*).

A graceful slender shrub with long, narrow, greyish-green, downy phyllodes. Large, round, creamy-white flower heads in late autumn and winter. Unusual and uncommon wattle. Found on sandstone hills and ridges in southern Qld and northern NSW. Grow in full or dappled sunlight in well drained soils. 1-3 metres.



Flat-stem Wattle (*Acacia complanata*).

Open shrub with a graceful, drooping habit. Oval-shaped phyllodes on zig-zag flattened stems. Rounded, rich golden-yellow flower heads, most of the year. Benefits from regular pruning after flowering. This is one of the longer lived wattles. Occurs in open forests in southern Qld and northern NSW. Adapts to most soils in a sunny situation. 2-4 metres.



Crowded-leaf Wattle

(*Acacia conferta*).

Bushy, ornamental shrub with fine, dense, grey-green foliage crowded on hairy, arching stems. Masses of rounded, bright golden flower heads in winter. Often found in sandy or gravelly areas of Qld and NSW. A hardy species, adapted to most soils and positions. Benefits from pruning after flowering. 1-3 metres.



Pretty Wattle (*Acacia decora*).

A showy, fairly compact shrub with narrow bluish-grey phyllodes on slim yellowish stems. Sprays of golden yellow flower balls in winter and early spring. Grows naturally on stony ridges and hillsides in open forests, on sandstone ridges and in stony gullies. Does best in reasonably well drained soils in sun or dappled shade. Frost resistant and drought tolerant. 2-4 metres.



Velvet Wattle

(*Acacia holosericea*).

Upright shrub with delightfully soft, large, silvery-grey, velvety foliage. An abundance of bright yellow flower spikes in winter. Bunches of twisted seed pods. Grows along streams in open forest. Quick growing in most positions.

