

From: Kakadu Plum Co. <hello@kakaduplumco.com>
Sent: Sunday, 1 October 2023 8:33 AM
To: s 47E(c), s
47F
Subject: Australia's national floral emblem

Kakadu Plum Co[®]



Wattles have long had special meanings for Australians, and for more than a century they have been a popular symbol of Australia and Australians. There are more than 1,073 described *Acacia* species (or wattles) that have evolved across Australia over 35 million years. Amongst these there are many hundreds of species with yellow blossoms that are commonly called golden wattle.

However there is just one, *Acacia pycnantha* (Golden Wattle) that was officially gazetted as Australia's national floral emblem in 1988.

There are over 1200 species of wattles!

That makes wattles the largest genus of flowering plant in the country, outnumbering even the ubiquitous *Eucalyptus*.

Acacias species occur in a wide range of environments, with species adapted from the skeletal soils of mallee scrub to arid central Australian desert lands, to the poorly draining swampy rich soils of Tasmania.

Wattles often burst onto landscapes across the country as the cooler months slowly give way to longer days and warmer weather. As we emerge out of winter, many wattles explode into festoons of fluffy golden blossoms, announcing the arrival of spring. However, in many places, wattles flower throughout the year.

on Djaara country, the lands of the Dja Dja Wurrung people, *Acacia implexa* (Lightwood Wattle) begins the show in mid to late summer, with pale, creamy pom-pom flowers and beautiful sickle-shaped phyllodes (stems).

Many other species flower as the months pass – it's like a domino effect of colour! The *Acacia mearnsii* (Black Wattle), with its feathery pinnate leaves and dark veiny bark rounds out the year, flowering until almost Christmas.

Many are used by Traditional Owners for food, tools, medicine and as seasonal indicators. Seeds were roasted and eaten, or ground to make flour for baking. Wattle sap from cuts in the trunk was eaten or made into a drink. It could even be used as a glue. The bark, which is high in tannins, was used to make a tea to treat diarrhea, hemorrhage, and clean wounds. Weapons and handles were also made from the wood.

And it's not just Traditional Owners who benefit from wattles. Often the dense or thorny foliage of wattles provides shelter for small bird species. Flowers attract many pollinating insects, which benefit other plants requiring pollination and also insect-feeding birds and small mammals. Many species of insects, including some butterflies such as the Imperial Blue Butterfly breed only on wattles, making wattles intrinsic to biodiversity.

SHOP NOW

Claim your FREE mug

with ANY order.
They are nearly all gone !

Use code FREEMUG

SHOP NOW

Until stock runs out. Not valid with any other promotion or discount offer.



What everyone is loving this week

- [Christmas Decorations](#)
- [Festive Entertainer](#)
- [Kakadu Plum Powder](#)
- [Ruth Spencer 1024 puzzle](#)- on sale
- [Christmas Bar Combo](#)

SHOP NOW

Free standard shipping on AU orders over \$99
Free Tea Towel for orders over \$140. Use code TEA

kakaduplumco.com

We would like to acknowledge the Boon Wurrung people of the land on which we work and live and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We would also like to pay respect to the Boon Wurrung Elders, past, present, and future and extend this respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from other communities.



First published via Bush Heritage
If you prefer not to receive emails our emails you may [Unsubscribe](#) or [Manage Preferences](#) here. Please note, we are currently 2 days behind on order dispatch. Thank you for your patience and understanding.