A revision of eastern Australian *Bossiaea* (Fabaceae: Bossiaeeae)

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**Abstract**

A revision of eastern Australian *Bossiaea* (Fabaceae: Bossiaeeae) is presented. Five new species, *Bossiaea alpina*, *B. dasycarpa*, *B. obovata*, *B. peninsularis*, and *B. sericea*, are described. *B. rhombifolia* subsp. *concolor* is raised to the rank of species as *B. concolor*, and *B. cinerea* var. *rigida* is resurrected and raised to the rank of species as *B. tasmanica*. *Bossiaea cordifolia*, *B. decumbens*, *B. distichoclada*, and *B. nummularia* are resurrected as species. An informal infrageneric classification and keys to groups and species are presented, as well as illustrations, images, and distribution maps.

**Key words**: morphology, taxonomy, biodiversity, flowering plants, peas, legumes.


**Introduction**

Tribe Bossiaeeae (Fabaceae) is endemic in Australia and comprises seven genera and 101 species. The tribe has a widespread distribution in Australia, with most species occupying temperate and subtropical latitudes. Morphological features defining the tribe include: stamens all fused into an adaxially open sheath, anthers all dorsifixed and uniform in size, and seeds with a laterally connected and distinctively lobed aril. Standard and wing petals are fundamentally yellow, but commonly also have reddish markings.

*Bossiaea* Vent. is morphologically diverse and is by far the largest genus in tribe Bossiaeeae. It comprises 78 species (following the revision herein), with centres of diversity in south-eastern Australia and south-western Western Australia. Eastern species, with the exception of the desert-dwelling species *B. walkeri*, generally occur in regions with annual rainfall greater than about 500 mm and mostly form part of the shrubby understorey of open forests and woodlands. *Platylobium* Sm., which is endemic to south-eastern Australia, is clearly the closest relative of *Bossiaea*. The two genera share the following distinguishing features: unifoliolate leaves (when leaves are present), scales (fused stipule-pairs), terminal inflorescences that are mostly 1- or 2-flowered and mostly on contracted axes (and so appearing to be axillary), and brown, chartaceous bracts and bracteoles which resemble scales. *Bossiaea* can be distinguished from *Platylobium* by several features, including the less strongly compressed pods, the lack of or less conspicuous wing development on the upper margin of pods, and the stipules not both broad and deflexed. In addition, *Bossiaea* generally has smaller leaves, fewer inflorescence scales, upper calyx-lobes that are less conspicuously broader and longer than lower lobes, and bracteoles that are generally more proximally inserted on the pedicel. Within tribe Bossiaeeae, the lack of leaf development and the compressed and sometimes winged branchlets seen in some species of *Bossiaea* are unique. The leafy, eastern Australian species of *Bossiaea* have narrower leaves than those of *Platylobium*, their inflorescences are subtended by fewer inflorescence scales, and they tend to have smaller flowers.

The relationships within *Bossiaea*, and whether it constitutes a monophyletic group separate from *Platylobium* is unresolved. The
relatedness of eastern and western species is also unclear; however, in the course of this study, preliminary comparisons of the morphology of the eastern and western species suggest that *Bossiaea* had already diversified to a degree prior to the two regions becoming botanically isolated. In Western Australia, there is perhaps a greater amount of diversity than in the east, and this is reflected by the fact that two genera, *Lalage* Lindl. and *Scottia* R.Br., were erected in the early 1800s to accommodate some species. Bentham subsequently transferred these species to *Bossiaea* (Bentham 1864). The Western Australian species were recently revised (Ross 2006) and this resulted in an increase in the number of species of *Bossiaea* in Western Australia from 24 to 38. *Bossiaea bossiaeoides* (Benth.) A.B. Court occurs in northern Western Australia and was described in Ross (2006), but also extends across the Northern Territory and into far north-western Qld. This species is not included in the current revision.

The research described herein is the final taxonomic instalment in a study encompassing all genera in tribe *Bossiaeeae*. Revisions of *Goodia* Salisb. (Thompson 2011a), *Platylobium* (Thompson 2011b), *Muelleranthus* Hutch., *Paragoodia* I.Thomps., *Aenictophyton* A.T.Lee and *Ptychosema* Benth. (Thompson 2011c) have recently been published.

**Taxonomic history** (see Table 1): The genus *Bossiaea* was erected in 1800 by the Frenchman Etienne Ventenat when he described the eastern Australian species *B. heterophylla* Vent. From that time through until the late 1880s, new taxa were named regularly, with Baron Ferdinand Mueller and George Bentham being the main contributors. Bentham in *Flora Australiensis* (Bentham 1864) named five new species, but also reduced to synonymy four previously described taxa, and reduced *B. rosmarinifolia* Lindl. to varietal rank. During this period, several taxa now assigned to either *Templetonia* R.Br. or *Cristonia* J.H.Ross in tribe Brongniartieae were initially placed in *Bossiaea*. In the first three decades of the 20th century three new varieties were recognised, but then there was a 53 year hiatus before the next new taxon, *B. oligosperma* A.T.Lee, was described (Lee 1981). In 1991 *Bossiaea arenicola* J.H.Ross was described (Ross 1991), and very recently there has been a burst of taxonomic activity, with five new leafless species described (Ross 2008; McDougall 2009).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year range</th>
<th>Taxa</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1800–1820</td>
<td><em>heterophylla</em> (1800)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1821–1840</td>
<td><em>obcordata</em>a (1803)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841–1860</td>
<td><em>scolopendria</em>b (1808)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1861–1880</td>
<td><em>cinerea</em> (1812)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1881–1900</td>
<td><em>prostrata</em> (1812)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1901–1920</td>
<td><em>microphyllum</em>c (1805)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1821–1840</td>
<td><em>lanceolatum</em>d (1808)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841–1860</td>
<td><em>ovatum</em>e (1808)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1861–1880</td>
<td><em>coccinea</em> (1813)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1881–1900</td>
<td><em>rotundifolia</em> (1825)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1901–1920</td>
<td><em>linnaeoides</em> (1832)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td><em>humilis</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td><em>hendersonii</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td><em>plumosa</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td><em>var. stenocladae</em>f (1928)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921–1940</td>
<td><em>var. stenocladae</em>f (1928)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>grayi</em> (2009)</td>
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</table>

1. Originally placed in *Platylobium*.
2. Reduced to synonymy in *Flora Australiensis* (Bentham 1864).
3. Reduced in status in *Flora Australiensis* (Bentham 1864).
4. First described as a variety of *B. cinerea*, then treated as synonymous with *B. obcordata*.
5. First described as a variety of *B. rhombifolia*. Subsequently raised to *B. rhombifolia* subsp. *concolor* (Lee 1970).
6. Variety of *B. heterophylla*.

Table 1. Chronology of publication of new taxa in eastern Australian *Bossiaea* prior to the current revision.

Taxa that are treated as synonyms in the current revision, or that are unplaced, are presented in shaded boxes (See also Index of scientific names).
**Methods**

This morphological study was based for the most part on examination of herbarium material with the aid of a dissecting microscope. In addition, trips into the field were undertaken in Victoria and south-eastern New South Wales to examine populations and to collect and examine fresh material. Flowers of some herbarium specimens were reconstituted using hot soapy water. Specimens from AD, BRI, CANB, HO, MEL, NE, and NSW were examined. All images presented in figures were taken by the author using a Canon PowerShot A2000 IS digital camera.

Type specimens cited have been seen by the author unless indicated with *n.v* The author has not examined overseas material for purposes of typification except via images, mostly digital and accessed on-line, and further investigation is desirable in some instances. The majority of images examined have been from K, but images of material from G, BM and W have also been examined. Illustrations have been designated as the holotype of a species in several instances. Searches of herbaria in the future may reveal specimens associated with these illustrations, but there has been no indication of their existence in documents I have read.

Taxa with a current conservation classification are indicated in the *Distribution and habitat* sections below, and new taxa that are likely to warrant such a classification are also indicated here.

**Explanatory notes for keys and descriptions:** Measurements in keys and descriptions are based on pressed herbarium material and, unless otherwise specified, are based on branchlets (see Notes on morphology) and the structures borne on them. For leafless species, cladode-scale measurements refer to the longest scales of a branchlet, which occur in the middle third. Descriptions of stipules, bracts and bracteoles refer to their abaxial (outer) surface and width measurements of bracts and bracteoles were taken of the structures in their natural shape rather than flattened out. Descriptions of stipules refer to their appearance soon after maturity and before they become degraded with age. Also in the descriptions, the hairiness of stipules, scales, as well as bracts, bracteoles and calyces refer to their abaxial (outer) surface, not including the margins. The descriptions of convexity of bracts and bracteoles is also based on the abaxial view. The length of the calyx does not include the length of the receptacle (see Figure 1e). Descriptions of petal colour and marking pattern are partly based on field examination and examination of photographs and partly on interpretation of pressed specimens. The colour of wings and keel is that of their abaxial (outer) surface. Descriptions of petal colour and seed morphology are based on a limited survey of specimens for many species. The shape of pods given in descriptions is the two dimensional shape seen in profile.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
<th>Group D</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foliosa subgroup</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cinerea subgroup</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cordigera subgroup</strong></td>
<td><strong>Prostrata subgroup</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. B. sericea</td>
<td>7. B. cordifolia</td>
<td><strong>Buxifolia subgroup</strong></td>
<td><strong>Scortechinii subgroup</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. B. alpina</td>
<td><strong>Kiamensis subgroup</strong></td>
<td>11. B. decumbens</td>
<td>16. B. dasycarpa</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8. B. kiamensis</td>
<td>12. B. buxifolia</td>
<td>17. B. scortechinii</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13. B. neoanglica</td>
<td>18. B. obovata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group E</strong></td>
<td><strong>Group F (Leafless)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stephensonii subgroup</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bracteosa subgroup</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>21. B. stephensonii</td>
<td>37. B. bombayensis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Heterophylla subgroup</strong></td>
<td>38. B. grayi</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>22. B. heterophylla</td>
<td>39. B. vombata</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23. B. rhombifolia</td>
<td>40. B. bracteosa</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>24. B. concolor</td>
<td><strong>Walkeri subgroup</strong></td>
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<td>41. B. walkeri</td>
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**Table 2. A new, informal classification of eastern Australian Bossiaea.**
The term \( l:w \) ratio refers to the length of a structure divided by its width and is here expressed as a quotient, e.g., \( l:w \) ratio 3 indicates that the structure is 3 times longer than wide, and \( l:w \) ratio 5–8 indicates that the structure ranges from being five times longer than wide to eight times longer than wide.

**Results**

The results of this morphological study are presented in the taxonomic section below. In summary, the pattern of morphological variation identified calls for the recognition of eleven additional species, including five new species, one taxon elevated in rank, one taxon resurrected and elevated in rank, and four species resurrected. An informal two-tiered infra-generic classification has also been developed, and is summarised in Table 2.

The most taxonomically important characters identified in this study were: habit; branch architecture, compression and spininess; indumentum density; stipule dimensions, shape, texture and orientation; presence or absence of leaves and scales; phyllotaxy; leaflet size, shape and articulation; apiculum morphology; inflorescence-axis length; pedicel length and robustness; bracteole shape, persistence and insertion position; calyx-lobe shapes and relative sizes; petal lengths and coloration; pod length, thickness and indumentum; pod-stipe length; and aril morphology.

**Notes on morphological features**

**BRANCHLETS**: Branchlets are here defined as the branches bearing inflorescences in their axils. They vary from terete to compressed. The branchlets and branches of leafless species are mostly broadly winged and are termed cladodes. Compressed branchlets generally become more terete in subsequent years. Ridges or leaf decurrencies are often evident on branchlets and when well-developed are generally pale. In leafy species, branchlets are sometimes moderately compressed but there is usually little or no wing development. Bossiaea stephensonii F. Muell. is an exception as it typically does develop narrow wings. The wings are mostly much wider than the terete or mildly compressed central region. The pale margins of the wings of these cladodes correspond to the decurrent ridges of leafy species.

In some species, branchlets are striate due to raised parallel venation or develop a whitish epicuticular wax as they mature. In leafless species in particular, this wax layer can ultimately lift in fragments varying from small flakes to large sheets, e.g., see Figure 12d.

Bossiaea kiamensis Benth. is unique amongst eastern species in having minutely bulliform branchlets and branches (Fig. 4e).

**INDUMENTUM**: Hairs are simple, basifixed, straight, or less often curled, and 0.2 to 1 or rarely to 2 mm long. They are mostly white, but occasionally pale yellow or coppery. The inner surface of calyx-lobes has an indumentum of short, curled hairs, and the margins of scales, bracts, bracteoles and calyx-lobes are almost always ciliolate. Hairs are generally similar throughout a plant with the exception of pod-valves which often have hairs longer than on other structures. The orientation of hairs can vary within a species from antrorse-appressed to spreading. Some species more commonly have spreading hairs while others more commonly have appressed hairs, but orientation is not generally a reliable taxonomic character. The minute tubercles evident on upper surfaces and margins of leaves of several species are persistent hair-bases.

Taxa displaying a relatively distinctive indumentum include: the four species in the Foliosa subgroup (Group A), which have pale yellow or coppery hairs on ovaries and pods; B. stephensonii, which has relatively long hairs; B. brownii Benth. which has long hairs emerging from a layer of curled hairs; and B. cordigera Benth. ex Hook f. which has scattered short, curly hairs. Leafless species are commonly glabrous at maturity, but scattered hairs are generally present on developing cladodes, at least on the margins. Some members of the Ensata subgroup develop hairs on the apex of the keel-petals. Leafy species that are often virtually glabrous include B. lenticularis Sieber ex DC. and species in the Heterophylla subgroup.

**STIPULES AND SCALES**: Stipule morphology is quite variable. Most stipules have a ciliolate apex even if the surfaces are glabrous. Stipules are generally persistent, but generally darken and become degraded with age. Stipules are inserted on the lateral expansion of the branch on which a leaf is inserted. In all but one species insertion of the pair of stipules is opposite; however, in B. cordifolia they are inserted more adjacent to one another (Fig. 4f). The stipules of this species are also
Figure 1. Aspects of morphology. a. Petiole and petiolule showing variation in their articulation. (i) articulation obscure; (ii) as previous except for a spur, (iii) articulation marked by a change in diameter from petiole to petiolule, (iv) articulation geniculate, (v) as previous but also with a ridge, (vi) as previous but with petiole spurred; b. Reproductive organs (example species Bossiaea heterophylla). (i) calyx, cut and opened out, (ii) standard, (iii) wing, (iv) keel, (v) androecium, (vi) gynoecium, (vii) pod, (viii) cross-section of pod. All approximately ×2; c. Seeds (i) Aril-base broad (Cinerea subgroup), (ii) Small seed, aril-base narrow, strongly curved lobe (Buxifolia subgroup), (iii) Aril knobbly and with lobe oblique, obscuring gap between lobe and base on one side (B. walkeri), (iv) Seed typical of several groups (drawn from B. heterophylla); d. Inflorescences (bracts and bracteoles not shown). (i) sessile, with one pair of inflorescence scales, (ii) as previous but with shoot development below scales, (iii) as previous except stipules and leaf developed instead of scales; (iv) as for (i) but with multiple pairs of inflorescence scales, (v) rudimentary on-growing of axis adjacent to flower, (vi) 2-flowered cluster, (vii) 2-flowered raceme-like inflorescence with rudimentary on-growing of axis, (viii) as previous but with on-growing axis leafy. Individual flowers could be interpreted as solitary and axillary in this arrangement; e. Calyces (showing one upper lobe, one lower lateral lobe and lower median lobe (appearing as half actual width due to the lateral view; base of calyx marked with a dashed line). (i) upper lobes triangular and the same size as lower lobes (Bracteosa subgroup), (ii) upper lobes triangular, broader than lower lobes (B. arenicola), (iii–vii) upper lobes c. quadrate: (iii) lower lobes relatively long and lobe-apices filiform (Scortechinii subgroup), (iv) upper lobes oblong, narrow (Foliosa subgroup), (v) upper lobes moderately broad, apex nearly truncate (e.g., Heterophylla subgroup), (vi) upper lobes broad, broadening markedly from base, with apex rounded (e.g., Cinerea subgroup), (vii) as previous but upper lobes relatively long (e.g., Cordigera subgroup).

Drawings not precisely to scale, but all within the range ×4 to ×5.
unusual in the degree of deflexion. The angle the stipule makes with the petiole varies within a small range in most species, but this measure can be useful taxonomically (e.g., see Figure 10h, i). The angle is difficult to assess if stipules are markedly recurved or deflexed.

In species of the Brownii subgroup of Group F, margins of stipules are clear and membranous and become recurved to revolute and generally distorted. In species of Groups B and C, stipules are commonly very narrowly triangular, often filiform distally, reddish, and tend to become recurved. *Bossiaea stephensonii* has exceptionally large, green, erect stipules. Stipules in the Scortechinii subgroup of Group D are significantly smaller than those of *B. stephensonii*, but are otherwise similar in appearance.

Scales are formed by the fusion of stipules and are present at nodes of the cladodes of leafless species and on the inflorescence axes of all species. They are also often present at the most basal nodes of branches of leafy species. At nodes occupied by a scale a leaf is not developed. The scales on cladodes of leafless species become progressively longer with distance from the base up to a certain point, and are longest in the middle third of the cladode. The basal scales of a cladode are sometimes clustered.

In leafy species there are two scales at the base of inflorescences; they are small and are mostly shorter than and often hairier than the adjacent bract. They are often only partially fused and sometimes a minute leaf rudiment is developed between the two scale halves to produce a trifid arrangement. Because of the small size and hairiness these inflorescence scales are difficult to observe. Occasionally stipules and a small to normal-sized leaf are present on the axis instead of a scale. In leafless species, there are often multiple, overlapping pairs of inflorescence scales and the most distal ones are relatively large.

**PHYLLOTAXY:** Phyllotaxy is mostly distichous in eastern Australian *Bossiaea*. Most species have regularly alternate leaves; however, three species have opposite leaves, and the three species in the Cinerea subgroup have variable phyllotaxy. Although leaves are inserted in a spiral arrangement in the Cinerea subgroup, the laminas tend to become oriented in one plane.

**LEAVES:** Leaves in eastern Australian *Bossiaea* are unifoliolate, although in a small proportion of species the articulation, *i.e.*, the articulation between the petiole and the petiolute leaflet, is obscure and the leaf appears to be simple (Fig. 1a, i). The articulation is recognisable in most species by either a change of angle (geniculate articulation; Fig. 1a, iv–vi), change in diameter (a non-pulvinate petiole terminus connecting to a pulvinate petiolule; Fig. 1a, iii), or by the presence of a ridge or spur on the petiole (Fig. 1a, v & vi and Fig. 4e). Species in the Cordigera subgroup have relatively slender petioles.

The laminas of leaflets are generally small, but are highly variable in shape. For branchlets, lengths range from a minimum of 1 mm in *B. alpina* I. Thomps. and *B. distichoclada* F. Muell. to a maximum of 30 mm in *B. rosmarinifolia*. *Bossiaea carinalis* Benth. has the broadest leaflets (to 13 mm). Species in the Buxifolia and Brownii subgroups have leaflets with asymmetric bases (Fig. 10e). The asymmetry is sometimes quite subtle and is often variably evident within a plant. Margins of leaflets are mostly flat or recurved, but are sometimes revolute, *e.g.*, in the Cinerea subgroup, and rarely incurved to involute. In *B. rhombifolia* DC. *B. concolor* (Marden & Betch) I. Thomps. *B. heterophylla* Vent. and *B. stephensonii*, the margin generally has a fine pale rim that is generally only evident with microscopic examination. The apex of leaves is highly variable in shape and in the degree of development of an apiculum. The apiculum is either straight or downcurved. The stoutest and longest apicula are seen in the Cinerea subgroup and these are commonly pungent (Fig. 4).

Minute tubercles evident on the upper surface and margins of some species are hair-bases. Scattered pale dots, presumably glands, are sometimes evident on the upper surface of leaves of pressed specimens (when viewed under magnification); however, different pressing methods appear to influence the visibility of these dots. This gland-dotted appearance is perhaps most consistently seen in species in Group D.

**INFLORESCENCE ARCHITECTURE** (Fig. 1d): Inflorescences typically appear to be axillary; however, they are interpreted here as terminal inflorescences arising from contracted axes. The evidence for this axis is commonly no more than the presence of a pair of scales below the pedicel of a flower.

In a number of leafless species, a few to several overlapping pairs of inflorescence scales are developed, while in several species, *e.g.*, species in the Cordigera
subgroup, the scales are separated from the axil by an axis up to c. 3 mm long. Less commonly, a short inflorescence axis is more obviously developed, with several, often leafy, nodes present. In most species, only a single inflorescence develops from an axil, but occasionally, and especially in the Bracteosa subgroup, multiple inflorescences arise from an axil.

Inflorescences are mostly single-flowered, with two-flowered clusters occurring occasionally in several species. However, in species in the Scortechinii subgroup a raceme-like arrangement of two or three flowers can develop, with the inflorescence axis continuing beyond the distalmost flower. This axis may be rudimentary at flowering or it may have developed into a leafy axis. Occasionally in this subgroup a solitary, truly axillary flower, subtended by a leaf or scale, may develop along an otherwise leafy shoot (as in Fig. 1d, viii but with only one flower).

**BRACTS AND BRACTEOLES:** A single bract is present at the base of each pedicel and commonly is partly obscured by one of the subtending inflorescence scales. The two bracteoles are inserted on the pedicel at different points depending on the species, ranging from basal to almost at the summit. Bracts and bracteoles are commonly slightly to strongly convex abaxially and they always have ciliolate margins. They are glabrous adaxially (on the inner surface) but are often hairy at first abaxially. Bracteoles are commonly opposite, but sometimes one is inserted up to c. 1 mm distal to the other. This sub-opposite arrangement is quite often seen in *B. carinalis*. In the Buxifolia subgroup bracteoles tend to be both inserted towards the upper side of the pedicel rather than on opposite sides, and they are often more widely divergent (Fig. 6d). In *B. ensata* Sieber ex DC. and *B. scolopendria* (Andrews) Sm. bracteoles are somewhat fleshy. In *B. arenicola* the two bracteoles fuse to form a single structure (Fig. 10n). In *B. distichoclada* bracteoles are relatively large and a colourless, recurved margin is sometimes evident.

In most leafy species bracteoles are persistent until well after anthesis and they often persist through to mature fruit stage. In contrast, seven of the 12 leafless species have caducous bracteoles. Because these species with caducous bracteoles have multiple pairs of inflorescence scales and because they are structurally very similar to bracts and bracteoles, it can be difficult to determine whether bracts and bracteoles have been shed. Sometimes, although abscissed, they remain lodged in position. In *B. milesiae* KL. McDougall and *B. walkerii* abscission scars are usually visible on the pedicel, but in other species these scars are concealed by scales.

**RECEPTACLE AND CALYX** (Fig. 1e): The receptacle is the dilated distal end of the pedicel and is a well-developed obconical structure 0.5–1 mm long (labelled in Figure 1e). The junction between receptacle and calyx is generally identifiable in pressed specimens. The calyx-tube is 1–4 mm long and is variously shorter than, equal to, or longer than the lobes. In a few species, e.g., *B. heterophylla* and *B. carinalis*, the calyx is often slightly glaucous and in others, notably *B. heterophylla*, *B. ensata* and *B. scolopendria*, the calyx-tube commonly has broad, longitudinal red stripes aligned with the interlobe sinuses.

Upper calyx-lobes are highly variable in eastern Australian *Bossiaea*. Except for four species with triangular lobes, the upper calyx-lobes are somewhat four-angled but with considerable variation in shape, mostly relating to broadening from the base and the degree of expansion beyond the lateral angle. Major variants are illustrated in Figure 1e. In the final two examples (Fig. 1e vi & vii) there is expansion of the lobe beyond the lateral angle. When this occurs the apex is always broadly rounded. The calyx shown in Figure 1e vii resembles the morphology of *Platylobium*. Lower calyx-lobes are triangular to narrow-triangular and are relatively uniform in morphology. In several species, notably *B. scortechinii* F. Muell. and *B. dasycarpa* CT. White ex I. Thomps. the apices of both lower and upper lobes have a filiform extension. In *B. scortechinii*, the lower median lobe is often distinctly longer than the lower lateral lobes. The calyx-lobes of the Bracteosa subgroup are distinctive in being all triangular and of similar size and shape as well as being largely brown and chartaceous.

**COROLLA:** Outlines of petal shapes of *B. heterophylla* are shown in Figure 1b and are fairly typical of the shapes in the majority of species. The standard-limb is generally slightly broader than long except in Group A species in which it is more or less circular. The unopened standard in Group A species is also folded so that the lateral margins merely touch rather than overlap as is typical of other species. Two fairly common patterns of coloration of petals are shown in Figures 10l (*B. oligosperma* AT. Lee living) and 8d


(B. prostrata R.Br. pressed). In the former, the standard is yellow adaxially (internally) except for a red flare around the throat. Wings are flushed reddish or brownish abaxially over much of their length, and the keel is a darker purple-red distally. On the standard a red band sometimes runs vertically through the throat to divide it in two. The throat also commonly has red flecks at the base. The abaxial (outer) surface of the standard mostly has some degree of pink to red colouring. Sometimes, as is shown in Figure 8d, pale lines corresponding to the course of veins radiate from the flare and interrupt an otherwise red surface. Wings are sometimes entirely yellow except for some pink markings towards the base. Five species, B. arenicola and the four species in Group A, always have entirely yellow petals, while three species in the Scortechinii subgroup, especially B. scortechinii, are typically yellow or with relatively little red marking. Yellow-petalled mutant plants are occasionally recorded for species that normally have red markings.

PODS: The upper margin of pods is variable in thickness and in the degree of development of vertical ridges. Sometimes the ridge is restricted to the suture line only, and there may be a sulcus formed each side of this ridge. If the ridge is much higher than wide it approaches the dimensions of a wing, as the ridge is generally referred to in Platylobium. Pods of B. carinalis could almost be described as having wings (Fig. 10k). Pods with thickened valves and broadened upper margins are only seen in Group E and in a few species in Group F. In most groups the upper margin is 0.5–1 mm wide, whereas it ranges from 1 to 3 mm wide in species in Group E. Extremes in the range of widths of the upper margin are shown in Figure 10g with a pod of B. rhombifolia placed beside a pod of B. buxifolia.

The outer surface of valves commonly has slightly raised transverse venation evident with magnification; however, in species in Group B the venation is usually indistinct. The inner surface of pod valves is mostly smooth and glabrous; however, in several species in Group E spongiose tissue forms between valves creating a partition between the seeds (Fig. 10f).

There appears to be some variation in the degree of revolute rolling of valves post-dehiscence. The rolling appears to gradually develop post-dehiscence. In some species the valves persist on the plant post-fruiting and are present in the next flowering period as cylinders with the exposed inner surface being silvery.

SEEDS (Figs 1c & 4g–i): Seeds are relatively uniform in shape and they range in length from 2 to 6 mm. Mature seeds are brown to blackish and are commonly mottled (Figs 4g–i, 10c). Seeds become considerably shorter but plumper just prior to maturity. When examining seeds of herbarium records it may be difficult to tell if that final change of shape had occurred. Some measurements of seed length may turn out to be excessively long for this reason. The aril is also fairly uniform in shape and relative size. There is some variation in the length of its base and the degree of overhang and curvature of the lobe. The oblique arching or asymmetry of the recurved margins of the lobe, which is a normal feature, is evident in Figure 4h. The aril of B. walkeri is unusual in being slightly knobbly and with the gap between lobe and base being hidden when viewed from one side.

**Taxonomy**

In the descriptions below, species are ordered according to morphological similarity and, to further emphasise points of similarity, they have also been placed in six informal groups and 16 subgroups (Table 2). The groups are in some instances somewhat weakly defined, whereas the subgroups are well-defined and likely to reflect close relationships between members. The epithet of the most familiar or most widespread species in a subgroup is adopted for the name of the subgroup, e.g., The Prostrata subgroup is named after B. prostrata.

**Bossiaea** Vent., *Descr. Pl. Nouv.* 1: 7 (1800)

*Type*: *Bossiaea heterophylla* Vent.

*Bossieuia*, orth. var. Pers.

*Boissiaeae*, orth. var. Lem.


[All taxa historically placed in either Scottia or Lalage are endemic to Western Australia.]

**A circumscription of Eastern Australian species**

*Subshrubs, shrubs or small trees*, sometimes leafless, sometimes rhizomatous. *Indumentum* commonly developed but variably persistent on branchlets and leaves, sometimes developed on pedicels and ovaries.
Key to informal groups of eastern Australian Bossiaea

1 Plants leafless (or occasionally with a few leaves developed from lower nodes of broadly winged stems)...............................Group F

1: Plants leafy .........................................................................................................................................................................................2

2 Leaves all regularly opposite, with nodes well-spaced ................................................................................................................3

2: Leaves all regularly alternate or arranged irregularly ..................................................................................................................4

3 Leaflets with l:w ratio ≥ 2 ........................................................................................................................................................................ Group B

3: Leaflets with l:w ratio 0.8–1.2 ............................................................................................................................................................... Group B

4 Standard petal to c. 8 mm long, all yellow; upper calyx-lobes < 1 mm wide; pods < 10 mm long, hairy all over; ovaries and pods with hairs commonly pale yellow or coppery (mostly tablelands to alps) ................................................................................ Group A

4: Standard petal > 8 mm long and/or with red markings, or if ever not with either feature then upper calyx-lobes > 1 mm wide; pods > 10 mm long, hairy all over or more often with valve faces glabrous; ovaries and pods with hairs white ..................................................................................5

5 Apex of leaflets narrowly acute with a robust, sometimes pungent apiculum; bracteoles to c. 1 mm long, not or hardly longer than broad, inserted more than halfway along pedicel ................................................................................. Group B

5: Apex of leaflets not entirely as above or if ever nearly so then branchlets compressed; bracteoles mostly > 1 mm long, longer than broad, inserted variously .................................................................................................................. 6

6 At least some branchlets spinescent or subspinescent (tapering to a blunt point)........................................................................ Group D

6: Branchlets not spinescent or tapering ......................................................................................................................................................... 7

7 Lower calyx-lobes at least as long as the calyx-tube AND the upper lobes; calyx hairy .................................................................. Group D

7: Lower calyx-lobes shorter than calyx-tube and/or shorter than the upper lobes; calyx glabrous or hairy ........................................ 8

8 Ovaries and pods hairy at least on margins; prostrate or weakly erect shrubs to c. 0.5 m high (higher if supported); pods thin, with upper margin < 1 mm wide; pod-stipe generally < 3 mm long .................................................................................................................. Group C

8: Ovaries and pods glabrous, or if ever hairy then tall shrubs with flowers entirely yellow and bracteoles fused into a single structure; generally erect shrubs, mostly > 0.5 m high; pods slightly to very thick, with upper margin > 1 mm wide; pod-stipe generally > 3 mm long........................................................................................................ Group E

and abaxial surfaces of stipules, scales, bracts, bracteoles and calyces, rarely developed on the apex of keel-petals; margins of structures such as stipules, scales, bracts, bracteoles and calyx-lobes almost always ciliolate; hairs simple, mostly straight but occasionally curled or crumpled, white or rarely yellow or coppery. Branchlets terete or compressed, sometimes with leaf decurrencies, sometimes broadly winged (and then called cladodes), rarely spinescent, sometimes developing epicuticular wax. Stipules erect, reflexed or rarely deflexed, herbaceous or scarious, fused to form scales below inflorescences (inflorescence scales) and, in leafless species, at all nodes along cladodes. Leaves mostly distichous, alternate or less often opposite or irregularly arranged, unifoliolate but with the articulation sometimes obscure, or leaves absent. Inflorescences mostly appearing axillary, but interpreted as terminal on a contracted or very short or rarely more elongate axis bearing 2 or less often 4–10 scales; inflorescences mostly 1-flowered, occasionally 2-flowered, and very occasionally with flowers in a raceme-like arrangement; bract and bracteoles mostly scarious; bract at base of pedicel, slightly shorter than bracteoles; bracteoles variously inserted, persistent or caducous; receptacle obconical, generally distinct. Calyx with tube shorter than to longer than lobes; upper lobes partly fused, mostly broader and often longer than the triangular lower lobes; petals clawed; standard and wings yellow, commonly with reddish or purple-brown markings; standard with limb oblate or occasionally c. circular; standard mostly equal to or slightly longer than wings; keel equal to, slightly longer, or occasionally much longer than wings, pale or more often reddish
especially distally; stamens fused to form an adaxially open sheath; anthers all dorsifixed and ±uniform in size; ovary 2–20-ovulate; style slender, upcurved; stigma small. Pods stipitate; body compressed, with valves and margins variously thickened, glabrous, hairy on margins, or hairy all over, sometimes with spongiose tissue partitioning seeds internally; upper margin often slightly to strongly ridged. Seeds plump, ellipsoid or slightly reniform, with a conspicuous aril; aril with a lobe arising at one end and arching over the aril-base.

### Key to Group A

1. Leaflet halves markedly convex, with margins commonly partly revolute, with upper surface generally with scattered minute tubercles all over; lower surface never covered by closely appressed hairs......................................................... 2
2. Leaflet halves flat or only slightly convex, with margins not revolute, with upper surface lacking tubercles or tubercles near-marginally only; lower surface commonly with a close-appressed to sericeous indumentum................................. 3

2. Stipules < 1.5 mm long; leaves commonly broad-ovate; bracteoles ≤ 1 mm long, not exceeding receptacle........ 1. *B. foliosa*
3. Stipules > 1.5 mm long; leaves commonly transversely oblong-elliptic; bracteoles > 2 mm long, extending well onto the calyx................................................................. 2. *B. distichoclada*

3. Lower surface of leaflets largely to totally covered by a closely appressed, generally sericeous indumentum; bracteoles usually with some hairs, ≤ 1.5 mm long except in Brindabella Ranges and Coolamon Plain (Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales) where sometimes up to 2.5 mm long................................. 3. *B. sericea*
4. Lower surface of leaflets glabrous or with scattered hairs near midline only; bracteoles glabrous, ≥ 2 mm long (Victoria only)................................................................. 4. *B. alpina*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group A</th>
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<td>Shrubs, mostly erect but sometimes nearly prostrate; branchlets terete, without decurrent ridges, commonly moderately hairy. Stipules often striate. Leaves with lamina small, generally not longer than broad, markedly discolorous, often lustrous or sublustrous above. Inflorescences: axes contracted, with scales 2; pedicels short; bracteoles persistent, inserted proximally, sometimes relatively large. Flowers relatively numerous, relatively small; upper calyx-lobes narrowly oblong, not expanded beyond lateral angle, with lateral angle acute; petals entirely yellow; anthers small (0.2–0.3 mm long). Pods short-stipitate; body circular to broad-elliptic, hairy all over, with hairs commonly pale yellow to coppery. Seeds 1 or 2 per pod (Fig. 2).</td>
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Group A is a well-defined and distinctive group of four species. It is also identified here as the Foliosa subgroup to emphasise the close relationship between members. It occurs in south-eastern New South Wales and eastern Victoria at moderate to high altitudes, and contains the only species to extend into the alpine zone (Fig. 3). It is essentially synonymous with *B. foliosa* A. Cunn. as historically circumscribed, *i.e.*, in *Flora Australiensis* and in subsequent state floras. Descriptions in recent state floras erroneously state that *B. foliosa*, *i.e.*, in the historic sense, has caducous bracteoles.


   **Erect shrubs** to c. 1.5(–2) m high, with inflorescences borne typically on a ±regular series of short side-brancllets; branchlets eructo-patent to spreading, c. 0.4 mm wide, with a moderately dense indumentum of straight or wavy hairs c. 0.2 mm long; epicuticular wax not or hardly developed. *Stipules* triangular to narrow-triangular, 0.4–1(–1.5) mm long, erect, brown, often darker medi ally, hairy, glabrescent, 3 or more-nerved, but venation often obscure; *stipule-petiole* angle 60–90°. Leaves: petiole 0.3–0.7 mm long; articulation not or slightly geniculate, not ridged; lamina commonly broad-ovate, less often c. orbicular, squarish or transverse-oblong, 1.5–3 mm long, 1.5–3.5 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 0.8–1.1, with each lamina
half strongly convex, markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, truncate to cordate; margin often revolute each side of midline in distal two-thirds, otherwise recurved; apex broadly rounded or truncate; apiculum hardly developed, generally pointing down; upper surface minutely tuberculate, sometimes wrinkled (which may obscure tubercles), with venation not evident, with gland-dotting not evident, soon glabrescent; lower surface minutely white-dotted, with scattered hairs on midrib and extending laterally onto lamina, but often only sparsely hairy or glabrous towards periphery; hairs often slightly wavy, loosely appressed to somewhat spreading. **Inflorescences**: axes contracted; bract c. 0.5 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 0.5–2.5 mm long, glabrous or occasionally with scattered hairs; bracteoles persistent, broad-ovate, 0.5–1 mm long, with l:w ratio c. 1, divergent, inserted at base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, glabrous or sparsely hairy distally, red-brown. **Calyx**: 2–3.5 mm long, hairy, with tube c. equal to lobes; upper lobes 0.8–1.8 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide; sinus 0.3–1.2 mm deep; lower lobes 0.6–1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, flat; petals all similar in length, all entirely yellow; standard to c. 6 mm long; wings c. 1.5 mm wide; keel c. 2 mm wide; ovary hairy, 2-ovulate. **Pods**: stipe c. 1.5 mm long; body c. circular, 5–8 mm long, 5–7 mm wide, with scattered pale or light golden hairs c. 0.6 mm long on valves and margins; upper margin c. 0.5 mm wide, with ridge to c. 0.3 mm high. **Seeds**: 2.0–2.8 mm long, 1.5–1.8 mm wide; aril 1–1.2 mm long, c. 0.8 mm high, with base c. 0.6 mm long, with lobe curving 60–120º (Fig. 2e–g).

**Selected specimens from c. 60 examined:** NEW SOUTH WALES: The Mullions Range, 10 km NE of Mullion Creek RS (c. 24 km NNE of Orange), R.Coveny 10234, 14.x.1978 (NSW); 29.2 km from Yass Rd along Nottingham Rd toward Tumut, H.Thompson 906 & P.Ollerenshaw, 27.1.1987 (CANB, MEL, NSW); Monaro Hwy between Nimmitabel and Bombala, 2 km S from turn-off to Snowy Mtns Hwy, G.Stewart 416, 4.xii.1984 (CANB, MEL); Tantangara turn-off, c. 16 km S of Kiandra, E.Reiner 494, 20.xii.1960 (CANB); Dry Plains Rd, c. 25 km from Cooma, R.W.Purdie 5623, 23.xi.2002 (CANB); Hume and Hovell Walking

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**Figure 2. Group A.** a. *Bossiaea distichoclada* (J.H.Ross 3631 MEL); b. *B. distichoclada*, pod (R.J.Fletcher 376 MEL); c. *B. sericea* (R.O.Makinson 920 MEL); d. *B. alpina*, flowers and new growth (R.H.Barley, 19.xi.1980 MEL); e. & f. adaxial and abaxial views of leaves. Top row: *B. foliosa* (I.Crawford 769 MEL), and *B. distichoclada* (J.H.Ross 3632 MEL); bottom row: *B. sericea* (R.O.Makinson 920 MEL) and *B. alpina* (D.E.Albrecht 5195 MEL); g. *B. foliosa*, flowers (K.J.Fitzgerald 75 MEL). Scale bars: a, c = 10 mm, b, d–g. = 2 mm.

**Flowering period:** Flowers from October to December.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in the central and southern tablelands of New South Wales and in far eastern Victoria at altitudes of about 800–1200 metres a.s.l. (Fig. 3a). Grows in often stony soils in open forest and woodland.

**Notes:** Bossiaea foliosa is distinguishable from other species of the group by a combination of leaflet-shape, texture of the upper surface and indumentum of the lower surface of leaflets, small bracteoles with somewhat rounded apices, hairy calyces, and glabrous pedicels. The leaflets are commonly ovate because margins are revolute distolaterally. The leaflets of members of Group A are compared in Figure 2e–f. The bract and bracteoles of*B. foliosa* are inserted close together and are divergent; this creates a cupular arrangement from which the pedicel emerges and generally clearly exceeds. The bract is often trifid, an uncommon shape for bracts but commonly seen in inflorescence scales. *Bossiaea foliosa* and *B. distichoclada* have leaflets with a pale lower surface. Under magnification, this pallor is seen to be due to minute white rings closely crowded over the surface.

**Hybridisation:** A specimen collected from Haydons Bog near Delegate, in far eastern Victoria (Bauerlen, 1899 NSW) may be a hybrid between *B. sericea* L. Thoms. and *B. foliosa* A. Cunn.

**Typification:** There are two sheets at K with probable type material of *B. foliosa*. Although the collector's name is not specified for some pieces, I consider that all pieces were collected by Cunningham on his expedition from Port Jackson to Bathurst in 1822–1823, and were probably all from a single gathering near Bathurst. On one sheet a piece coded as K 278308 is labelled 'Brushy forest land near Bathurst' and so matches the description in the protologue. A.B. Court annotated this piece as ‘the type’ in 1967, but Lee (1970) while discussing ‘the Holotype’ did not clearly indicate whether she was referring to this piece. All pieces are of similar diagnostic value, but I here formally designate K 278308 as the lectotype of *B. foliosa* based on the close correspondence between the label and the protologue. The contents of a small envelope on the sheet near the lectotype have not been seen. On the same sheet, the piece in the top right hand corner K 278307 is labelled as a Cunningham collection, Cunningham 130/1822, while for the two pieces of K 278309, the collector is not indicated. Both are probable isolecotypes. The second sheet at K bearing probable type material, coded as K 278306, has three pieces and is a duplicate of K 278307 based on similarities in the labelling, and so also probably an isolecotype. At the time of writing, the catalogue had incorrectly identified the collection number for this specimen as Cunningham 136. The number 130 is written on the label but a comma from the line above has caused it to appear like 136.


**Type:** not designated. [Protologue: ‘In the Australian Alps from the Mitta Mitta to the tributaries of the Snowy River’] Victoria. Bogong Mountains, F.Mueller, date unknown (probably 1854); lectotype (here selected): MEL 20321.


**Bossiaea foliosa sensu** G.Bentham, Fl. Austral. 2: 160 (1864), and subsequent Australian authors, pro parte, non sensu stricto.

**Erect shrubs** to c. 1 m high, with inflorescences borne typically on a ±regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets sub-erect to erecto-patent, c. 0.6 mm wide, with a dense indumentum of straightish hairs c. 0.3 mm long; epicuticular wax not developed. *Stipules*
triangular, 1.5–4 mm long, erect, divergent, sometimes slightly reflexed, brown, glabrous, 5–10-nerved, but venation generally obscure; stipule-petiole angle variable, difficult to assess. **Leaves**: petiole 0.2–0.5 mm long; articulation obscure; lamina obcordate, reniform, or c. circular, 1–2.5 mm long, 2–4 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 0.6–0.9, with each lamina half strongly convex, markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, broadly rounded to cordate; margin recurved proximally, generally revolute distally; apex broadly rounded, truncate or emarginate; apiculum not or hardly developed; upper surface minutely knobbly and often wrinkled, with venation obscure, with gland-dotting not evident; lower surface glabrous, or sometimes with hairs on midrib, often white-dotted. **Inflorescences**: axes contracted; bract 1.5–3 mm long, 1 mm wide, strongly convex abaxially; pedicel 1–2 mm long, hairy; bracteoles persistent, narrow-elliptic, (2–)2.5–4.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 2–3, loosely appressed to calyx, inserted near base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, hairy medially, brown. **Calyx**: 2.5–3.5 mm long, hairy, with tube slightly longer than lobes; upper lobes 1–1.5 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide; sinus c. 1 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.5 mm long, 0.5–0.7 mm wide, flat; petals all similar in length, all entirely yellow; standard to c. 8 mm long; wings 1.5–2 mm wide; keel 2–2.5 mm wide; ovary hairy, 2-ovulate. **Pods**: stipe 1 mm long; body c. circular or broad-elliptic, 5–8 mm long, 5–6 mm wide, with rusty-orange hairs c. 1 mm long on valves and margins; upper margin c. 0.4 mm wide, ±unridged. **Seeds**: c. 2.5 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide; aril 1–1.2 mm long, c. 0.7 mm high, with base 0.6–0.8 mm long, with lobe curving c. 90° (Fig. 2a, b, e, f).

**Selected specimens from c. 60 examined**: NEW SOUTH WALES: 9 km along Cascade Trail from the Alpine Way, 500 m S of Cascade Creek ford, A.J.Whalen 283, 14.xii.1998 (CANB, DNA, MEL). **VICTORIA**: Blue Shirt Creek, 100 m downstream of Nunniong Rd, 5 km WSW of Mt Nunniong. K.Menkhorst s.n., 12.i.1985 (MEL); c. 16 km E of Mt Hotham on road to Omeo, J.Cullimore 246, 17.i.1968 (MEL); c. 9 km E of Little Mt Tambo, c. 3 km NE from junction of Currawong Rd and McDougall Spur Track, F.E.Davies 609, 10.xi.1988 (AD, CANB, MEL, NSW); Brumby Point, Nunniong Plateau, c. 80 km NNE of Bairnsdale, J.H.Willis, 13.xi.1964 (MEL); Forlorn Hope Track, 5 of Benambra–Wululmerang road, A.C.Beauglehole 36194, 18.i.1971 (MEL); Spring Hill Track, 12 km SSW of Mt Tambo, Splitters Range, G.W.Carr 10247, 8.xii.1984 (MEL).

**Flowering period**: Flowers from December to January.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in eastern Victoria from Mt Hotham east to The Cobberas and in far southeastern New South Wales where it occurs near Thredbo in Kosciusko National Park (Fig. 3b). There is a record of *B. distichoclada* labelled Buffalo (*Robbins* MEL 521828) which is part of a mixed collection with *B. sericea*. There is some doubt about the validity of the label. Grows in montane to subalpine woodland.

**Notes**: Bracteoles of *B. distichoclada* are large and have a conspicuous indumentum of appressed hairs which is densest medially (Fig. 2a). Bracteoles extend to the calyx-lobes or sometimes beyond this point. Bracts and bracteoles tend to be more brittle than in other species and often are split in pressed specimens. Margins of stipules and bracteoles tend to fray with age. The indumentum of pods (Fig. 2b) is more conspicuously coppery than in other species. Leaves are closest in most respects to those of *B. foliosa*, but the margins are rolled differently and do not create the ovate shape typically seen in the latter. Specimens with very long stipules and bracteoles have been recorded from the Nunniong Plateau in eastern Victoria.

**Hybridisation**: Probable hybridisation has been recorded between *B. distichoclada* and *B. sericea* in the...
with indumentum sparser near margins; indumentum usually somewhat persistent. Inflorescences: axes contracted; bract 0.7–2.2 mm long, 0.5–1 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 1–3.5 mm long, glabrous or hairy; bracteoles persistent, ovate, narrow-ovate or oblong, 0.7–2.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 1–3, mildly divergent, inserted near base, strongly convex, with venation mostly obscure, glabrous or with hairs towards apex, brown. Calyx 2–3.5 mm long, hairy throughout or glabrous except for lobes, with tube equal to or slightly longer than lobes; upper lobes 0.9–1.5 mm long, 0.8 mm wide; sinus 0.5–1 mm deep; lower lobes 0.5–1 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, flat; petals all similar in length, all entirely yellow (sometimes with pink tinges on margins); standard to c. 8 mm long, with limb as long as broad; wings 1.5–2 mm wide; keel 2–2.5 mm wide; ovary hairy, 2- or 3-ovulate; style 2.5–4 mm long. Pods: stipe 1–2.5 mm long; body broad-elliptic, 6–10 mm long, 4–8 mm wide, with rusty hairs or a mixture of pale and rusty hairs c. 1 mm long throughout; upper margin c. 0.5 mm wide, with ridge to c. 0.2 mm high. Seeds often reniform, (2.5–)3–4 mm long, c. 2 mm wide; aril 1.5–2 mm long, 1–1.2 mm high, with base 0.7–1.2 mm long, with lobe curving 90–140° (Fig. 2c, e, f).

Selected specimens from c. 200 examined: AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY: Mt Gingera, Brindabella Range, M.Evans 2565, 29.xi.1966 (AD,BRI, CANB, MEL, NSW); Mt Franklin, c. 0.5 km from chalet in direction of peak, T.R.Lally & B.Lafay 452, 23.xi.1994 (CANB, NSW); 22 km S of Picadilly Junction, W.Bishop 584, 29.xii.1987 (CANB, MEL, NSW); lower slope of Mt Ginini, Brindabella Range, R.Coveny 11549 & P.Hind, 19.i.1983 (CANB, MEL, NSW). NEW SOUTH WALES: Coolamon Plains, G.Singh, 29.xi.1979 (CANB); W side of Port Philip Fire Trail, 0.7 km from Long Plain Rd, 3.1 km N of Rules Point, P.C.Jobson 5439 & P.H.Weston, 21.i.1998 (NSW); 16.7 km along Geehi Dam Rd from the Alpine Way, Kosciusko National Park, R.Johnstone 2152 & A.E.Orm, 20.i.2005 (NSW); 9 km along Cascade Trail from the Alpine Way, Kosciusko National Park, A.J.Whalen 293, 14.xi.1998 (CANB, NSW); Maragle Range, Mt Black Jack, F.Davies 479 & S.Walton, 21.i.1998 (CANB, MEL, NSW); Constance’s hut site, Burringubugge River, Kosciusko National Park, A.M.Lyne 230, 28.i.1991 (CANB, MEL, NSW); near Eucumbene Lookout, Snowy Mts, R.A.Goode 520, 17.xi.1961 (NSW); Mt Kosciusko, J.M.Curran, i.1896 (NSW); near Tooma Pond, Kosciusko National Park, A.M.Ashby 3718, 21.xi.1970 (AD), VICTORIA: Delegate River Fen, near Old Bendoc–Bonang road, E.A.Chesterfield 42, 13.xi.1983 (CANB, MEL); Mt Bogong, G.Weindorfer, xii.1903 (MEL); Wall of Death, Hotham Heights, D.E.Albrecht 4948, 8.iv.1992 (CANB,
of the abaxial surface of the leaves (from Latin, sericeus) lack tubercles (persistent hair-bases) or the tubercles are only present near the margin. The surface is commonly quite smooth but also can be slightly uneven, at least when dry, due to some faint dark ridges between secondary veins.

**Hybridisation:** Probable hybridisation between *B. sericea* and *B. distichoclada* q.v. has been recorded in the Bogong High Plains in north-eastern Victoria (*J.H.Ross 3635–7, 3640 all MEL*) and further east at Limestone Creek (*N.G.Walsh 2867 CANB, MEL, NSW*). A specimen from Haydons Bog near Delegate (*Bauerlen, 1899 NSW*) may be a hybrid between *B. sericea* and *B. foliosa*. A small sterile plant collected from an unknown locality (Australia felix) in Victoria (*F.Mueller MEL 668111*) is possibly a hybrid between *Bossiaea sericea* and *B. prostrata*.

4. **Bossiaea alpina** I.Thomps., sp. nov.


**Type:** Victoria. Surveyors Creek Camp, D.E.Albrecht 5195, 15.xii.1992; holotype: MEL 2017313; isotype: CANB n.v.

**Bossiaea foliosa** senso G.Bentham, Fl. Austral. 2: 160 (1864), and subsequent Australian authors, *pro parte, non sensu stricto*.

Diffuse shrubs to c. 0.5 m high, with inflorescences borne typically on a ±regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, c. 0.5 mm wide, with a moderately dense indumentum of straightish hairs c. 0.3 mm long; epicuticular wax not developed. **Stipules** triangular, 0.7–1.5 mm long, erect to divergent, brown, glabrous, 5–10-nerved; stipule-petiole angle 30–60°.

**Leaves:** petiole 0.2–0.5 mm long; articulation slightly geniculate, not ridged, sometimes obscure; lamina c. square or transversely oblong to oblong-elliptic, 1–2 mm long, 1–2.5 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 0.8–1.0, flat or more often concave, with each lamina half flat or gently convex, markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, c. truncate; margin slightly recurved, smooth or minutely tuberculate; apex truncate or broadly rounded, apiculum to c. 0.2 mm long, pointing forwards or down; upper surface smooth, with venation obscure, with gland-dotting not evident, glabrous; lower surface glabrous or sparsely hairy and then glabrescent, without white-dotting. **Inflorescences:** axes contracted; bract 2–3 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide, moderately convex; pedicel...
1.5–2.5 mm long, glabrous or with scattered hairs; bracteoles persistent, narrow-ovate or narrow-oblong, 2–3.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 2–3, loosely appressed over calyx, becoming slightly divergent at anthesis, inserted near base, moderately convex, many-nerved, glabrous, brown. Calyx 3–3.5 mm long, glabrous or sparsely hairy near apex of lobes, with tube c. equal to lobes; upper lobes 1.5–2 mm long, 0.8 mm wide; sinus c. 1–1.5 mm deep; lower lobes c. 1.5 mm long, 0.8–1 mm wide, flat; petals all similar in length, all entirely yellow; standard petals generally 1–2 mm longer than wings and keel; wings generally expanded beyond lateral angle; standard generally 1–2 mm longer than wings and keel; wings normally yellow except for reddish streaks near apex of lobes, with tube c. equal to lobes; upper lobes near apex of lobes, with tube c. equal to lobes; ovary hairy, 2-ovulate. Pods (only immature pods seen): stipe c. 1 mm long; body c. circular, 6 mm long, 5 mm wide, with whitish hairs c. 0.5 mm long throughout; upper margin c. 0.4 mm wide, with ridge not evident. Seeds not seen (Fig. 2d–f).

Selected specimens from c. 10 examined: VICTORIA. Tamboritha Saddle, near Chester’s Hut, S of Bennison Plain, N.G.Walsh 974, 20.xi.1980 (MEL, NSW); Echo Flat, Lake Mountain, N.G.Walsh 908, 17.xii.1981 (MEL); The Bluff, c. 13 km SE of Mt Buller, T.B.Muir 960, 28.xii.1959 (MEL); unnamed track 100 m NE of Howitt Rd, 1.5 km NW of Guy’s Hut, R.H.Barley, 19.xi.1980 (MEL); near Moroka Gap, 1.6 km SW of Mt Wellington, T.B.Muir 3744, 13.i.1965 (MEL); Lake Mountain, E.J.Carroll, 22.xii.1965 (CANB); Dry Creek, Howitt Plains, T.M.Whaite 64, 8.i.1949 (NSW).

Flowering period: Flowers from December to January.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in south-eastern Victoria at Lake Mountain, Mt Buller and the Howitt Plains area (Fig. 3d). May warrant recognition as a rare species. Grows in subalpine or alpine heathland or heathy woodland.

Etymology: The epithet refers to the occurrence of this species in alpine and subalpine environments.

Notes: Bossiaea alpina is most closely related to B. sericea but is distinguished from that species by its smaller more sparsely hairy leaves, shorter petioles, larger, more distinctly striate and glabrous bracteoles, and glabrous calyx (Fig. 2d). Based on label data and some field observations, B. alpina has a considerably more diffuse habit than other members of Group A.

Group B

Erect shrubs; branchlets mostly terete, with decurrencies not well-developed, moderately hairy, with hairs straight. Stipules relatively narrow and often with apex filiform, commonly recurved or deflexed, reddish-brown, hairy abaxially. Leaves with phyllotaxy variable, with articulation often spurred; lamina markedly discolorous, with margins often recurved to revolute, with midrib and apiculum generally robust, sometimes pungent. Inflorescences: axes mostly contracted, with scales 2; bracts and bracteoles small, nearly flat; pedicels often long and slender; bracteoles persistent, 0.8–1.5 (–2) times longer than wide, inserted in middle or distal thirds of pedicel. Calyx mostly glabrous; upper lobes broadening markedly from the base, broader than long, generally expanded beyond lateral angle; standard generally 1–2 mm longer than wings and keel; wings c. equal to keel; anthers relatively large. Pods with stipe equal to or slightly longer than calyx; body generally c. elliptic or oblong-elliptic, ±glabrous, with valves smooth (transverse venation generally obscure). Seeds mostly 2 or 3 per pod; aril long-based. (Fig. 4.)

Group B contains four species divided into two subgroups. Members of the group are most readily

### Key to Group B

1. Leaves all regularly opposite, with nodes well-spaced .................................................................................................................. 8. B. kiamesis

1: Phyllotaxy not as above, irregular and varying from alternate, to ±opposite to whorled on a single plant

2. Leaflets with l:w ratio > 8, with upper surface smooth; leaflet-articulation marked by a spur and by being geniculate (Grampians Ranges, Victoria only) .................................................................................................................. 6. B. rosmarinifolia

2: Leaflets with l:w ratio < 8, with upper surface usually minutely tuberculate; leaflet-articulation obscure or marked by a spur but not geniculate .................................................................................................................. 3

3. A small spur marking position of leaflet articulation in at least some leaves; leaflets with l:w ratio mostly > 3; stipules inserted opposite each other; wings purplish-brown; pedicels commonly with some hairs .................................................................................................................. 5. B. cinerea

3: Leaflet articulation obscure (spur not developed); leaflets with l:w ratio mostly < 3; stipules inserted relatively close to each other (commonly forming a deflexed V); wings yellow except for reddish streaks basally; pedicels usually glabrous .................................................................................................................. 7. B. cordifolia
Figure 4. Group B. a. *Bossiaea cinerea* (T.B. Muir 5545 MEL); b. *B. cordifolia* (T.B. Muir 5091 MEL); c. *B. kiamensis* (I.R. Telford 237 CANB); d. *B. rosmarinifolia* (T.B. Muir 866 MEL); e. *B. kiamensis*, leaf and stipules (I.R. Telford 237 CANB); f. *B. cordifolia*, leaf and stipules (H. Forde, x.1905 NSW); g & h. *B. cordifolia*, seed, left and right lateral views (I.R. Thompson 1466 MEL); i. *B. cinerea*, seeds attached inside pod (I.R. Thompson 1436 MEL). Scale bars: a, b, d = 5 mm, c = 10 mm, e, f, i = 2 mm, g, h = 0.5 mm.
identified by leaf and bracteole morphology. Species in Group B occur in south-eastern New South Wales, southern Victoria, far south-eastern South Australia, and Tasmania (Fig. 5).

The Cinerea subgroup (species 5–7) is well-defined. The three members have irregular phyllotaxy, with the arrangement varying from alternate to opposite to whorled on a plant, and all have long, slender pedicels and small, distally inserted bracteoles. *Bossiaea kiambiensis* (8) forms a subgroup on its own and is placed in Group A because of similarities to the Cinerea subgroup in leaf and pod morphology. In other respects, notably its opposite leaves, it is closer to the Cordigera subgroup of Group C.

### The Cinerea subgroup


**Type:** not designated. [Protologue: ‘Native of Van Diemen's Island, Robert Brown, Esq. Introd. 1805.’] Tasmania. Port Dalrymple, *R.Brown*, 1.i.1804; lectotype (here selected): BM 000885933, image seen in JSTOR Plant Science.


*Bossiaea tenuicaulis* Graham, *Edinburgh New Philos.* J. 29: 171 (1840); *B. cinerea var. tenuicaulis* (Graham) J.M.Black, *Fl. S. Australia* 2: 304 (1929). **Type:** not designated. [Protologue: ‘This plant was raised at the Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, from Van Diemen’s Land seeds sent by Mr Cooper, Wentworth House, in Apr. 1836.’]

**Erect shrubs** to c. 2 m high, with inflorescences borne typically on longer branchlets rather than a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, c. terete or angular, 0.5–1 mm wide, with hairs 0.3–0.8 mm long; epicuticular wax generally absent. *Stipules* narrow-triangular to filiform, 1–3 mm long, erect or more often becoming markedly recurved, reddish, hairy, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle mostly 30–60°. *Leaves* alternate, sub-opposite, opposite or in whorls of 3 in varying proportions on a single plant; petiole 0.2–0.5 mm long; articulation not geniculate, obscure except when marked by a spur 0.1–1 mm long; spur present on most leaves, or rarely uncommon on a plant; lamina narrow-ovate to narrow-lanceolate or narrow-triangular, 10–20 mm long, 1.5–6 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 3–8, slightly convex each side of midrib, becoming strongly convex laterally, markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, broadly rounded or truncate; margin recurved or revolute, occasionally undulate, sometimes with a few persistent hairs; apex narrowly acute; calyx 2.5–4.5 mm long, sometimes pungent, sometimes somewhat brittle, pointing forward or slightly down; upper surface smooth or tuberculate, with venation commonly raised, with gland-dotting not evident, glabrescent; lower surface usually hairy. *Inflorescences:* axes contracted or rarely to c. 1 mm long; bract c. 1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, slightly convex; pedicel 2–11 mm long, mostly sparingly hairy; bracteoles persistent, mostly broadly ovate, 0.2–1 mm long, with l:w ratio c. 1, appressed, inserted in middle or more often distal third, slightly convex, ±flat towards apex, faintly 1-nerved or with venation obscure, glabrous or with a few hairs distally, dull brown. *Calyx* 2.5–4.5 mm long, glabrous or less often hairy, with tube equal to or slightly longer than upper lobes; upper lobes 1.5–2 mm long, 2.5–3.5 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 0.3–1 mm; lateral angle acute or acuminate; sinus 1–1.5 mm deep; lower lobes 0.6–1 mm long, c. 0.6 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 12 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel; adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat generally not or not fully bisected, abaxially reddish almost throughout; wings c. as long as keel, c. 2.5 mm wide, purplish brown, sometimes yellowish near apex, also variously streaked red proximally and ventrally; keel c. 3 mm wide, red throughout; style 3–4 mm long. *Pods:* stipe 3–5 mm long; body c. elliptic, 10–16 mm long, 6–9 mm wide, glabrous or rarely sparsely hairy along lower suture; upper margin c. 0.8 mm wide, with
ridge to c. 0.5 mm high. Seeds 3–4 mm long, 2–3 mm wide; aril 1.5–2.5 mm long, 1–1.5 mm high, with base 1–2 mm long, with lobe curving 90–135º (Fig. 4a, i).

Selected specimens from c. 250 examined: SOUTH AUSTRALIA: W side of Mt Burr golf course, P.Gibbons 25, 4.x.1981 (AD, MEL); Hundred of Hindmarsh, section 455, c. 25 km NW of Mt Gambier, B.Blaylock 23, 5.ix.1965 (AD); Cave Range, c. 50 km S of Naracoorte, D.Hunt 476, 26.xi.1961 (AD).


Flowering period: Flowers in late July to November. Distribution and habitat: Occurs in far south-eastern South Australia, southern Victoria and in Tasmania (Fig. 5a). An old record label giving West Pymble, in New South Wales (Hellyer, 1964 NSW) is considered to be an error. Grows in sandy to loamy soils in heathland, scrub, woodland and forest.

Notes: Bossiaea cinerea is unique in having leaves in which the leaflet-articulation is indistinct except in being marked by a spur. Other species that develop a spur also have a geniculate articulation. Yellow-flowered forms, i.e., with red markings lacking, have been occasionally collected, e.g., in Melbourne (S.Rennick 109 MEL) in south-central Victoria, and Edenhope in south-western Victoria (Summerhayes, MEL). All populations of B. cinerea in the Grampians Ranges in south-western Victoria differ from the typical form in having flowers with a hairy calyx and with several long hairs on the lower margin of the ovary. In addition, the leaves of the Grampians form generally have a more robust and more elongate apiculum.

Typification: Lee (1970) indicated that a sheet at BM, with labelling indicating Port Dalrymple was the site of collection, was presumed to be the holotype. Brown did not designate a type and is likely to have used material from both Port Dalrymple and the Derwent River. I do not consider that Lee effectively lectotypified this sheet in 1970 by her presumption. I here select this same sheet, now barcoded BM 000885933, as the lectotype of B. cinerea. It bears three pieces, with mature fruit evident on two of them as would be expected for January. CANB 278253, received from BM, has previously been identified as type material. The label gives Port Dalrymple, which suggests it may be an isolectotype; however, the single piece bears flower buds just prior to anthesis. I consider it impossible for this to have been collected in January by Brown, so it appears that a labelling error has been made. Nevertheless the material may still be type material; it may have been collected by Brown in late winter while still in southern Tasmania, or it may have been passed on to him.

Hybridisation: Probable hybrids between B. cinerea and B. rosmarinifolia have been recorded from the Grampians Ranges in south-western Victoria (J.Westaway 263 MEL; H.Williamson, xi.1902 NSW; M.Corrick 5317 AD, MEL).

Figure 5. Distributions of species in Group B. a. Bossiaea cinerea; b. B. rosmarinifolia; c. B. cordifolia; d. B. kiamensis.

*Bossiaea cinerea* var. *rosmarinifolia* (Lindl.) Benth., *Fl. Austral. 2*: 160 (1864).

**Type**: not designated. [Protologue: No locality information with the description but deduced to be collected on Mt William in the Grampians Ranges from other commentary in the text.] Victoria. Mt William, T.L.Mitchell, vii.1836; probable isotype: K 000278329, *fide* A.S.George, *in sched.*, image seen in Kew Herbarium Catalogue. Type material likely to be located at CGE also, n.v.

Erect shrubs to c. 3 m high, with inflorescences borne typically on longer branchlets rather than a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erect-patent, terete, c. 1 mm wide, with hairs 0.5–0.8 mm long; epicuticular wax often developed. **Stipules** setaceous, 2–4 mm long, commonly recurved and somewhat twisted, reddish, soon glabrescent, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle mostly c. 30–60º. **Leaves** alternate or a smaller proportion sub-opposite, opposite or in whorls; petiole 0.5–1.2 mm long; articulation usually slightly geniculate, with a spur mostly 0.5–1 mm long; lamina narrow-lanceolate to narrow-linear, 20–30 mm long, 1–5 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 8–25, flat or slightly convex abaxially, markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, rounded; margin revolute, not undulate, glabrous; apex narrowly acute; apiculum 1–2 mm long, mostly pungent, not downcurved; upper surface smooth, with midrib distinct, but secondary venation generally obscure, with gland-dotted not evident, soon glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. **Inflorescences**: axes contracted; bract 0.3–0.5 mm long, c. 0.4 mm wide, slightly convex abaxially, generally hidden by scales; pedicel 3–8 mm long, hairy, with hairs often extending onto receptacle; bracteoles persistent, mostly broad-ovate, 0.3–0.8 mm long, with l:w ratio c. 1, appressed, inserted in distal third, slightly convex, with apex flat, with venation obscure, sparsely hairy distally, dull brown. **Calyx** 3–4.5 mm long, glabrous, with tube equal or to slightly longer than upper lobes; upper lobes 1–2.5 mm long, 2.5–3 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 0.3–1 mm; lateral angle acute or more often acuminate; sinus c. 1 mm deep; lower lobes 0.6–1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 12 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially similar or flushed red over most of surface; wings c. as long as keel, c. 2.5 mm wide, yellow except for red or brownish-red marks proximally or in lower half; keel c. 3.5 mm wide, red throughout; anthers 0.5–0.6 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous except for a few long hairs commonly present in distal half and on lower margin, 3- or 4-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. **Pods**: stipe 3–5 mm long; body c. elliptic, 10–15 mm long, 6–8 mm wide, glabrous or rarely with a few persistent hairs on lower margin; upper margin c. 0.8 mm wide, hardly ridged. **Seeds** 3–4 mm long, 2–2.8 mm wide; aril c. 2 mm long, c. 1.2 mm high, with base 1.5–2 mm long, with lobe curving c. 90º (Fig. 4d).

**Selected specimens from c. 30 examined**: VICTORIA: Silverband Rd, Grampians, T. & J.Whaite 1554, 31.x.1953 (NSW); Halls Gap–Dunkeld road, 19.2 km S of Halls Creek, R.C.Weston 114, 14.x.1984 (CANB, MEL); Mt Rosea, Grampians, M.E.Phillips 496, 4.xi.1971 (CANB, NSW); Bovine Creek crossing on Halls Gap–Dunkeld road, Grampians National Park, J.H.Ross 3803, 22.ix.1996 (MEL); Halls Gap, C.D’Alton, x.1923 (AD).

**Flowering period**: Flowers in September and October.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in the Grampians Ranges of south-western Victoria (Fig. 5b). Categorised as rare in Australia (Walsh & Stajsic 2007). Grows in dry sclerophyll open forest.

**Notes**: *Bossiaea rosmarinifolia* is immediately distinguished from other eastern Australian species by the high length to width ratio of its leaves. It is also distinguished from *B. cinerea*, probably its closest relative, by its longer petioles, geniculate articulation, smooth leaf-lamina, and standard and wing petals that are less extensively marked red or purplish-brown. The flower-bud often has a very pronounced beak, which is formed from the filiform apices of the calyx-lobes. It usually has a few hairs nearer the distal end of the lower suture of the ovary and these hairs can persist until the developing fruit is more or less a mature size. These hairs distinguish it from the other members of the subgroup except for the Grampians form of *B. cinerea*.

**Typification**: Type material is likely to be housed at CGE, where Lindley’s herbarium is housed, but unfortunately this has not been verified at this time. I have seen an image of K 000278329 which is labelled as Mt William, July, 37 ½ S, 142 ¾ E, New South Wales, Mitchell’s Expedition 1835. No. 256. It was annotated
as probable isotype by Alex George in 2005. The date on the label is a mistake as the year of Mitchell’s third expedition was 1836. The origin of another piece on the same sheet, K 000278330 is unclear from the label.

**Hybridisation:** Probable hybrids between *B. cinerea* and *B. rosmarinifolia* have been recorded from the Grampians Ranges in south-western Victoria (J. Westaway 263 MEL; H. Williamson, xi.1902 NSW; M. Corrick 5317 AD, MEL).


**Type:** not designated. [Protologue: ‘... raised from seed, sent by Mr. Henchman’s Collector, Mr. William Baxter, who collected them on the south coast of New Holland ...’] Holotype: pl. 20 in *Fl. Australas.* (Sweet): 20 (1827). Epitype (here selected): New South Wales. Pambula, H. Forde, x.1905: NSW 43671.

*Bossiaea cinerea* sensu G. Bentham, *Fl. Austral.* 2: 160 (1864), and subsequent Australian authors, *pro parte, non sensu stricto.*

Erect shrubs to c. 3 m high, with inflorescences borne usually on longer branchlets rather than a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent to almost spreading, terete, c. 0.5 mm wide, with hairs 0.3–0.8 mm long; epicuticular wax not developed. *Stipules* narrow-triangular to filiform, 1–3 mm long, recurved or deflexed, reddish, hairy at first, with venation obscure; stipule-pair somewhat adjacent, forming an angle of c. 30–140° with each other; stipule-petiole angle not generally measurable due to deflexing. *Leaves* variously arranged along a branch, mostly alternate, but also c. opposite or in whorls; petiole 0.3–0.8 mm long; articulation obscure; lamina triangular-ovate, 5–12 mm long, 2–7 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1.2–2, but occasionally up to 4, convex laterally, markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, cordate, truncate or broadly rounded; margin recurved or slightly revolute, often undulate, occasionally with a few hairs; apex narrowly acute; apiculum 1–2 mm long, pungent, not downcurved; upper surface smooth or minutely tuberculate, with venation generally slightly raised, glabrous or sparsely hairy; lower surface commonly glabrous except for veins, sometimes hairy throughout. *Inflorescences:* axes contracted or to c. 2 mm long; hairy; bract c. 0.5 mm long, c. 0.3 mm wide, slightly convex; pedicel 3–15 mm long, glabrous, or occasionally sparsely hairy proximally; bracteoles persistent, variously shaped, 0.3–0.6 mm long, with l:w ratio 0.5–1, ±appressed, inserted in distal third mostly, slightly convex, with apex flat or slightly recurved, with venation obscure, glabrous, dull brown. *Calyx* 3–4 mm long, glabrous, with tube longer than upper lobes; upper lobes 1.5–2.5 mm long, 2.5–3.2 mm wide, often expanded beyond lateral angle by up to c. 0.5 mm; lateral angle acuminate; sinus c. 1 mm deep; lower lobes c. 1 mm long, c. 0.6 mm wide, with lateral lobes ±flat; standard to c. 11 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially often red over much of surface; wings c. 2.5 mm wide, yellow, sometimes with a small red mark proximally; keel 3–3.5 mm wide, red ±throughout; anthers 0.5–0.6 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 3–4-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. *Pods:* stipe 3–7 mm long; body c. elliptic, 15–20 mm long, 5–7 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin c. 0.8 mm wide, with ridge 0.5 mm high. *Seeds* 3–4 mm long, 2.5–5 mm wide; aril 1–2 mm long, 1–1.5 mm high, with base c. 1.2 mm long, with lobe curving 60–120° (Fig. 4b, f–h).

**Selected specimens from c. 50 examined:** NEW SOUTH WALES: c. 2 km W by track from Lennards Island, NE of Eden, D. E. Albrecht 998, 26.ix.1984 (MEL, CANB); opposite aerodrome, Merimbula, E. F. Constable 5494, 3.xi.1964 (CANB, NSW); 3 km N of Merimbula, on Merimbula–Tathra road, T. B. Muir 5091, 26.viii.1973 (MEL); junction of Chipmill Rd and road to Boyd’s Tower, M. G. Corrick 6030, 18.ix.1978 (CANB, HO, MEL). VICTORIA: 5 km NW of Lavers Hill PO, A. C. Beauglehole 67375, 19.xii.1979 (MEL); c. 5 km S of Chapple Vale, H. I. Aston 814, 16.xi.1960 (MEL); Black Range, E. Ashby, xi.1937 (AD). TASMANIA: Rocky Cape, L. Richley, 13.x.1975 (HO); Exploration Creek, Newhaven Track, A. M. Buchanan 15452, 29.vi.1999 (HO); Lake Ashwood, 6 km NE of Strahan, A. E. Orchard 5739, 6.xii.1981 (AD, HO); 5 km S of Marrawah, A. M. Buchanan 14003, 4.x.1995 (CANB, HO).

**Flowering period:** Flowers from late winter to early summer.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in far south-eastern New South Wales, the Otway Ranges of south-western Victoria and in western Tasmania (Fig. 5c). Grows in open forest and heathland.

**Notes:** *Bossiaea cordifolia* has a distinctive stipule orientation. Stipules are inserted somewhat adjacent to one another, rather than on opposite sides of the leaf
attachment point, and they tend to become deflexed with age (Fig. 4f). The angle formed by the deflexed stipules varies from about 30° to 140°, and often they appear to be connected via a slender rim. In other species stipules do not usually become deflexed, even though they may be strongly reflexed, and they are always inserted opposite each other. Bossiaea cordifolia can also be distinguished from other two species in the Cinerea subgroup by the leaflets which have an obscure articulation and are more triangular-ovate and with a lower length:width ratio. Its longer, more pungent leaf-apiculum, glabrous pedicels, and yellow wing petals usually distinguishes it from B. cinerea. It is geographically well-separated from both B. cinerea and B. rosmarinifolia.

A sterile specimen from Nelson Bay River on the west coast of Tasmania (F.E.Davies 1153 CANB) has leaves intermediate between those of B. cordifolia and B. cinerea. Further collections from this area are desirable.

**Typification:** The holotype illustration is recognisable as likely to be B. cordifolia rather than B. cinerea based on the leaflet shape and the yellow wing petals. However, to make the application of the name more certain, I here select an epitype, H. Forde, x.1905, NSW 43671, for the holotype illustration.

### The Kiamensis subgroup


Erect shrubs to c. 3 m high, with inflorescences borne on longer branchlets or on a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, mildly compressed at first, c. 1 mm wide, with hairs 0.2–0.5 mm long, glabrescent; epicuticular wax sometimes developed. Stipules narrow-triangular, 1.5–4 mm long, erect, red-brown, gradually glabrescent, 1–3-nerved; stipule-petiole angle 30–80°. Leaves opposite; petiole 1–1.5 mm long; articulation strongly geniculate, with a spur 0.3–0.8 mm long; lamina narrow-elliptic, 10–35 mm long, 2–7 mm wide, with l:w ratio 2–6, or rarely to c. 10, flat or gently convex each side midrib, markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, rounded; margin almost flat to recurved, glabrous, minutely knobby; apex subacute to acute; apiculum 0.3–1 mm long, generally brittle, pointing forwards; upper surface smooth, with venation raised, brochidodromous, glabrous; lower surface glabrescent. **Inflorescences:** axes contracted or more often to c. 2 mm long, densely hairy; bract 0.5–1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, gently convex; pedicel 3–7 mm long, hairy or glabrous, usually wrinkled longitudinally below receptacle; bracteoles persistent, ovate, 0.4–1 mm long, with l:w ratio 1–2, ±appressed, inserted in distal half, convex, nearly flat at apex, with venation obscure, glabrous or with a few medial hairs, mid-brown or red-brown. Calyx 4–5 mm long, glabrous, with tube as long as or shorter than upper lobes; upper lobes 2–3 mm long, 3–4 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 1–2 mm; lateral angle acuminate; sinus 1–2 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.5 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, with lateral lobes convex; standard to c. 12 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat bisected, abaxially generally red, with pale radiating nerves medially; wings as long as or marginally longer than keel, 2–3 mm wide, light purplish-brown with red streaks, sometimes grading to dirty yellowish distally; keel 3–4 mm wide, red throughout; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 3-ovulate; style c. 3 mm long. *Pods:* stipe 3–4 mm long, body c. elliptic, 10–15 mm long, 7–8 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, with ridge to c. 0.5 mm high. *Seeds:* 3–3.5 mm long, 2–2.5 mm wide; aril 1.5–2.5 mm long, c. 1 mm high, with base 1–1.5 mm long, with lobe curving 90–130° (Fig. 4c, e).

**Selected specimens from c. 90 examined.** NEW SOUTH WALES: The Castle, Budawang Range, I. R. Telford 237, 22.ix.1967 (CANB); car park at end of Tin Mine Rd (off 12 Mile Rd), Morton National Park, K. L. McDougall 961, 5.ix.2001 (MEL); Clyde Mountain, O. D. Evans 1703, 15.ix.1926 (CANB); Budderoo National Park, Barren Grounds Nature Reserve, F. E. Davies 409 & T. Mulcahy, 7.xii.1987 (CANB, NSW); Round Hill, c. 5 km S of Sassafras, SW of Nowra, E. F. Constable, 20.ix.1961 (MEL, NSW).

**Flowering period:** Flowers in September and October.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs from Kiama south to Batemans Bay in south-eastern New South Wales, on near-coastal slopes and mountains (Fig. 5d). Grows in open forest.
Notes: Bossiaea kiamensis is readily identified by its regularly opposite leaves, a strongly discolorous leaflet which is much longer than wide, and a petiole that is strongly spurred at the articulation (Fig. 4e). Apart from opposite leaves, B. kiamensis has a number of other features linking it to the Cordigera subgroup, including the retrorsely-directed lateral angle of the upper calyx-lobes and the short axis on which inflorescence scales and inflorescences are raised. Pedicels in B. kiamensis are stouter and flesher than those of the Cinerea subgroup and have conspicuous decurrencies below the bracteoles. Other distinctive features of B. kiamensis are the convex lower calyx-lobes and verrucose branches and branchlets. The verrucosities become exposed as the indumentum is lost. Two inflorescences, one per axil, are frequently developed at a node. In contrast, in B. cordigera and B. lenticularis (Cordigera subgroup), the other two species with opposite leaves, an inflorescence usually only develops in one of the axils.

Typification: There is one sheet available for viewing in the Kew Herbarium Catalogue containing type material of B. kiamensis. I believe all the pieces on the page to be from the original collection by Backhouse and would have been seen by Bentham. The specimens bear flowers. The material is split into two groups (two barcode identifiers), with three pieces associated with a Herbarium Hookerianum stamp designated as K 000278246, and two pieces associated with a Herbarium Benthamianum stamp designated as K 000278247. The label associated with K 000278246 matches the protologue better and I therefore choose it as the lectotype of B. kiamensis. Lee in (1970) indicated that A.B. Court had seen ‘the Holotype’; however, it is unclear whether Lee was referring to the sheet described above or to another sheet that I have not seen.

Group C

Prostrate or low-growing subshrubs or weakly erect shrubs; branchlets in 1 or 2 regular series, short, widely divergent to spreading; terete, with decurrencies absent or poorly developed. Stipules relatively narrow, brown or reddish, often with apex filiform, commonly recurved. Leaves small, not or not much longer than broad, with articulation sometimes obscure, with apiculum sometimes slender and recurved. Inflorescences: axes with scales 2; bracteoles persistent, 1–2 times longer than wide, sometimes divergent, generally inserted beyond mid-pedicel. Calyx with upper lobes broadening from the base, broader than long, mostly expanded well beyond lateral angle; standard often completely reddish or brownish abaxially; keel with red marking restricted to distal half. Pods commonly narrow-oblong. Seeds often 4 or more per pod, small; aril with a short base and strongly arched lobes (Fig. 6).

Group C contains five species, and occurs in southeastern Queensland, eastern New South Wales, southern Victoria, and Tasmania (Fig. 7). It comprises two well-defined subgroups, the Cordigera subgroup and the Buxifolia subgroup. Generally speaking, it is similar to Group B in stipule, bracteole and calyx morphology and in having markedly discolorous leaves. The Cordigera subgroup has similarities to B. kiamensis in particular. The Buxifolia subgroup has similarities to group D and to the Brownii subgroup of Group E.

The Cordigera subgroup (species 9 & 10) differs from all other eastern species in its branching pattern and in a combination of leaf characters: leaves are opposite, small, as broad as long, and with slender petioles (0.1–0.2 mm in diameter; Fig. 6e, f). Elongation of the inflorescence axis below the inflorescence scales is typical in this subgroup. Compared to the Buxifolia subgroup they have pods with longer stipes, larger anthers, and upper calyx-lobes with the lateral angle pointing retrorsely. The shapes and relative sizes of calyx-lobes in this subgroup as well as that of B. decumbens in the Buxifolia subgroup are reminiscent of the morphology seen in Platyllobium.

The Buxifolia subgroup (species 11–13) has bracteoles that are distinctive in tending to be inserted somewhat adjacent to each other on the upper side of the pedicel rather than on opposite sides of the pedicel, and in being more divergent from the pedicel (Fig. 6d). The apiculum of leaves is often slender, dark and brittle, and often recurved to slightly hooked (Fig. 6c). Flowers are often relatively few and sporadic later flowering appears to occur more often than in other leafy species of eastern Bossiaea. The pod-stipe is much shorter than the calyx. The Buxifolia subgroup resembles the Prostrata and Scortechinii subgroups of Group D in being prostrate to generally low-growing plants with short-stipitate, narrow-oblong pods with hairy margins, but also resembles the Brownii subgroup of Group E in having almost terete branchlets and leaflets with asymmetric bases.
Figure 6. Group C. a. *Bossiaea decumbens* (N.G.Walsh 1848 MEL); b. *B. lenticularis*, (R.Coveny 11912a CANB); c. *B. neoanglica*, leaves (P.C.Jobson 5203 MEL); d. *B. buxifolia*, bracteoles (G.W.Carr 10143 MEL); e. *B. cordigera*, leaves and flower buds (A.Simson 1819 HO); f. *B. lenticularis*, inflorescence shortly after anthesis showing inflorescence axis with elongation below the scales, and reflexed upper calyx lobes. Arrow is pointing to the two scales and the bract (R.Coveny 11912a CANB). Scale bars: a, b = 10 mm, c–f = 2 mm

**The Cordigera subgroup**


**Type:** [Protologue: ‘Sieb! pl. exsic. nov.-holl. n. 425’].

New South Wales. Location unknown, *F.Sieber 425*, date unknown; holotype: G-DC, images seen MEL; isotypes: MEL 668121, MEL 668122, NSW 606082.

Sprawling to erect shrubs to c. 1.5 m high, with inflorescences borne on a regular series of very short, side-branchlets which in turn are produced along a regular series of spreading side-branches; branchlets spreading, terete, c. 0.4 mm wide, glabrous or sparsely hairy, glabrescent; hairs 0.1–0.2 mm long; epicuticular wax absent. **Stipules** narrow-triangular, 0.4–1(–3) mm long, erect, brown, glabrous, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 30–90º. **Leaves** opposite; petiole 0.4–1.2 mm long; articulation usually slightly to strongly geniculate, ridged; lamina circular, oblate, broad-ovate, occasionally broad-obovate or rhomboid-elliptic, 2–5 (–8) mm long, 2–6(–8) mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 0.8–1.1, flat, markedly discolored; base symmetrical, broadly rounded, truncate or shallowly cordate; margin slightly recurved, sometimes minutely tuberculate; apex broadly rounded to subtruncate; apiculum not developed; upper surface smooth, with venation mostly obscure, glabrous; lower surface glabrous. **Inflorescences**: axes usually 1–5 mm long, with scattered hairs or glabrous; bract 0.5–1 mm long, c. 0.3 mm wide, convex;
### Key to Group C

| 1 | Leaves opposite .......................................................................................................................................................................................................................... | 2 |
| 1: | Leaves alternate .......................................................................................................................................................................................................................... | 3 |
| 2 | Leaflets c. orbicular, with base not or only slightly cordate; branchlets and pedicels glabrous; pedicel < 5 mm long (New South Wales) .......................................................................................................................................................................................................................... | 9. *B. lenticularis* |
| 2: | Leaflets mostly broad-ovate, with base cordate; branchlets and pedicels hairy, pedicel > 5 mm long (Victoria and Tasmania) .......................................................................................................................................................................................................................... | 10. *B. cordigera* |
| 3 | Pedicels < 6 mm long; ovary and pod hairy on valves and margins, or if sometimes hairs absent or very few on valves then calyx glabrous; leaflet apiculum typically > 0.5 mm long ............................................................................................................................ | 13. *B. neoanglica* |
| 3: | Pedicels mostly > 6 mm long; ovary and pod with hairs on margins only; calyx hairy; leaflet apiculum typically < 0.5 mm long .......................................................................................................................................................................................................................... | 4 |
| 4 | Upper lobes of calyx 1.5–3 mm longer than lower lobes; keel > 6 mm long; style 2.5–6 mm long .................... | 11. *B. decumbens* |
| 4: | Upper lobes of calyx c. 0.5 mm longer than lower lobes; keel < 6 mm long; style 1–2 mm long .................... | 12. *B. buxifolia* |

Pedicel 3–7 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, ovate, 0.5–1 mm long, with l:w ratio c. 1–1.5, appressed, inserted in middle third, mostly beyond mid-pedicel, convex, with venation usually obscure, glabrous, brown or red-brown. **Calyx** 4–5 mm long, glabrous, with tube c. as long as upper lobes; upper lobes 2–2.5 mm long, 3–4 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 1.5–2.5 mm; lateral angle acute or occasionally acuminate; sinus c. 2 mm deep; lower lobes c. 1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, with lateral lobes often slightly convex; standard to c. 12 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially often flushed red medially; wings c. as long as keel, c. 2 mm wide, yellow; keel c. 3 mm wide, pale proximally, red distally; anthers c. 0.6 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 4–6-ovulate; style 2.5–4 mm long. **Pods**: stipe 5–12 mm long; body elliptic, rhomboidal or oblong, 10–20 mm long, 5.5–8 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, with ridge to c. 0.3 mm high. **Seeds** 2.5–3.5 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide; aril 1.2–2 mm long, c. 1 mm high, with base c. 1 mm long, with lobe curving 90–130° (Fig. 6f).

**Selected specimens from c. 60 examined**: NEW SOUTH WALES: Mt Wilson, C.Burgess, 9.xi.1962 (CANB); Thirrmere, C.Burgess, 11.x.1961 (CANB); road to Oakdale State Coal Mine, c. 5 km NNW of Oakdale, R.Coveny 11912 & P.Weston, 27.x.1984 (CANB, NSW); South Maroota, c. 0.9 km along Paulls Rd from the Windsor–Wisemans Ferry Rd, A.E.Orme 176 & R.G.Coveny, 27.x.2001 (BRI, CANB, MEL); Morts Gully, Lithgow, J.L.Boorman, 30.x.1914 (NSW); Burrangorang Valley, R.H.Cambage 2311, 8.x.1909 (NSW); Grassly Hill, Colo–Putty Rd, E.F.Constable, 7.ix.1948 (NSW); Laughtondale Gully Rd, c. 1 km E of junction with the Great Northern Rd, Maroota, R.G.Coveny 15522, 22.viii.1991 (AD, BRI, CANB, HO, MEL, NSW, PERTH).

**Flowering period**: Flowers in spring.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in near coastal parts of central eastern New South Wales, including the Blue Mountains from Howes Valley in the north to Thirrmere in the south (Fig. 7a). The label on a 1924 collection (Welch, NSW565910), which gives Tumut as the location, must be considered doubtful. Grows in sand on sandstone, often in swampy sites.

**Notes**: Bossiaea lenticularis is most closely related to *B. cordigera* and, like the latter, is readily identifiable by its divaricate branching, small, opposite leaves with a circular lamina, relatively slender branchlets and petioles, and folded upper calyx-lobes. The two species also have some similarities to species in Group B, particularly in bracteole, calyx and pod morphology.


**Type**: [Protologue: ‘Widely distributed over the northern parts of the Island, from the sea-level to 4000 feet, Lawrence, Gunn’. The island is Tasmania, but was given as V.D.L. (Van Diemen’s Land) by the collectors.] Tasmania. Locality unknown, R.Gunn [171], date unknown; lectotype (here selected): K 000278235, image seen in Kew Herbarium Catalogue.
Erect or sprawling shrubs to c. 1.5 m high, with inflorescences borne on a regular series of very short side-branchlets which in turn are produced along a regular series of spreading side-branches; branchlets spreading, terete, 0.3–0.5 mm wide, sparsely to moderately hairy; hairs c. 0.2 mm long, wavy to curly; epicuticular wax not developed. Stipules narrowly-triangular, 0.5–2 mm long, erect, brown, glabrous, 1-nerved or venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 30–70°. Leaves opposite; petiole 1–2 mm long, very slender; articulation slightly to moderately geniculate, ridged; lamina ovate to broad-ovate, occasionally c. circular, 2.5–6 mm long, 2.5–6 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 0.9–1.0, flat or slightly convex laterally, markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, cordate or less often broad-cuneate to truncate; margin slightly recurved, sometimes with hairs persisting, ±smooth; apex subacute to rounded; apiculum to c. 0.2 mm long, downcurved, or not developed; upper surface smooth, with venation obscure, glabrous; lower surface glabrous or with hairs on midrib. Inflorescences: axes contracted or to c. 3 mm long, hairy, with a small leaf and stipules often developed instead of scales, occasionally with 2 or more nodes below the flower; bract 0.5–1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, slightly convex; pedicel 15–30 mm long, hairy; bracteoles persistent, ovate, 0.5–1 mm long, with l:w ratio 1–1.5, ±appressed, inserted at or more often beyond mid-pedicel, convex, apex nearly flat, 1-nerved, glabrous, light brown. Calyx 5–6 mm long, glabrous, with tube shorter than upper lobes; upper lobes 2.5–3.5 mm long, 3–3.5 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 2–3 mm; lateral angle acuminate; sinus 2 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.7 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 12 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with red flare, abaxially brownish-red except towards margins; wings 3–3.5 mm wide, mostly brownish-red, sometimes yellow distally; keel c. 4 mm wide, pale proximally, red distally; anthers c. 0.7 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 4–8-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. Pods: stipe 5–8 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 15–30 mm long, 5–6 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, hardly ridged. Seeds 2–2.5 mm long, c. 1.5 mm wide; aril 1–1.2 mm long, c. 0.5 mm high, with base c. 0.7 mm long, with lobe curving 120–160° (Fig. 6e).
enlarged upper calyx-lobes, are reminiscent of species in the genus *Platylobium*.

Mature seeds have only been seen from a few collections. The aril-lobe is relatively slender and relatively strongly rotated laterally as it arches over. As is typical of the group the lobe is strongly curved and the apex often reaches to the seed surface.

Baron Ferdinand von Mueller cited the name *B. horizontalis* in First General Report of the Government Botanist on the Vegetation of the Colony in 1853, but it appears that the name *B. horizontalis* was never published. The name appears on several labels of specimens of *B. cordigera* at MEL suggesting that Mueller was planning to describe it himself, in which case Hooker was named as the future author in the report by mistake, or he was expecting J.D.Hooker to name the undescribed species as *B. horizontalis* rather than *B. cordigera*. In 1862, Mueller wrote a description of *B. cordigera* in *Fragmenta Phytophraphiae Australiae* without making any reference to *B. horizontalis*.

**Typification:** From a number of similarly suitable possibilities, K 000278235 is selected here as the lectotype of *B. cordigera*. It is a large single piece in the upper right of the sheet, and bears flowers and immature fruit.

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### The Buxifolia subgroup


*Bossiaea buxifolia sensu* G.Bentham, *Fl. Austral.* 2: 163 (1864) and subsequent Australian authors, *pro parte, non sensu stricto*.

Prostrate to sprawling shrubs to c. 0.3 m high, with inflorescences typically borne on a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent to almost spreading, terete, 0.3–0.5 mm wide, mostly sparsely hairy; hairs 0.2–0.3 mm long; epicuticular wax not developed. **Stipules** narrow-triangular, 0.5–2 mm long, erect or becoming incurved or recurved distally, red-brown, glabrous, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 60–90°. **Leaves** alternate; petiole 0.3 mm long; articulation obscure; lamina elliptic to broad-elliptic, 2–5 mm long, 1.5–4 mm wide, with l:w ratio

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**Figure 7.** Distributions of species in Group C. a. *Bossiaea lenticularis*; b. *B. cordigera*; c. *B. decumbens*; d. *B. buxifolia*; e. *B. neoanglica.*
1.1–1.8, ±flat, markedly discolorous; base often slightly asymmetrical, slightly cordate to rounded; margin slightly recurved, glabrescent, smooth; apex rounded to obtuse, often recurved; apiculum to c. 0.4 mm long, slender, brittle, recurved; upper surface smooth, with venation variably raised, mostly soon glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. **Inflorescences**: axes contracted; bract 0.8–1.5 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, flat to slightly convex; pedicel 10–25 mm long, hairy; bracteoles persistent, oblong to oblong-elliptic or obovate, 0.7–2 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, slightly to markedly divergent, inserted beyond mid-pedicel, mostly in distal third, fairly flat, sometimes recurved distally, with margins sometimes recurved, with apex flat or convex, 1-nerved, glabrous, light or red-brown. **Calyx** 3–5.5 mm long, hairy, with tube much shorter than upper lobes; upper lobes 2.5–3.5 mm long, 2.5–3 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 1–2 mm; lateral angle subacute to rounded; sinus 1–2.5 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.5 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 10 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat not bisected, abaxially brownish-red throughout; wings c. as long as keel, 2–2.5 mm wide, light purplish-brown throughout; keel 3–4 mm wide, pale except for pink markings in distal quarter; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary with hairs on margins, sometimes hairs rather few, 6–10-ovulate; style 3–6 mm long. **Pods**: stipe 1–3 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 20–30 mm long, 5.5–7 mm wide, with appressed or spreading hairs on margins, occasionally glabrescent; upper margin c. 0.6 mm wide, hardly ridged. **Seeds** 2–3 mm long, 1.2–1.8 mm wide; aril 1–1.5 mm long, 0.6–0.8 mm high, with base 0.5–0.8 mm long, with lobe curving 135–180º (Fig. 6a).

**Selected specimens from c. 50 examined**: VICTORIA: Wonnangatta Valley, c. 1 km NW of the junction of the Wonnangatta River and Zeka Creek, D.E.Albrecht 3885, 30.xi.1989 (MEL); Cheshunt–Dandongadale Rd, 4.8 km from Rose Valley, T.J.Entwisle 1725 & S.Bodsworth, 9.x.1990 (CANB, MEL, PERTH); S bank of Howqua River, c. 400 m downstream from Sheepryad Flat, N.G.Walsh 1848, 28.v.1987 (CANB, MEL, NSW); Eagle Point, Mt Buffalo, J.H.Willis, 20.i.1963 (MEL); Tipperary Track, S of Bynes Flat, E side of Sailors Creek, SW of Hepburn, J.H.Ross 3807, 12.x.1996 (MEL); 3 km SE of Beaufort, A.C.Beauglehole 61687, 19.xi.1978 (MEL).

**Flowering period**: Flowers from spring to early summer.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in southern Victoria from Ararat east to Bright (Fig. 7c). Grows in open forest.

**Notes**: *Bossiaea decumbens* differs from *B. buxifolia* in floral morphology with flowers having a longer calyx and corolla, upper calyx-lobes that are more expanded beyond the lateral margin, larger anthers, and a longer style. The red markings of the keel are also generally paler, stipules are generally less recurved, and leaflets are flatter and with margins less recurved. The two species are geographically separated.

**Typification**: From the type material at MEL, I have selected MEL 18885 as the lectotype as this sheet is the only one that contains good examples of the flowers. The original label specifies the collector as Dallachy; however the date of collection given in the type details above is based on a recent annotation. Although also collected from Mt Macedon, it is uncertain whether MEL 18886 is an isnectotype. The single piece has a different look to the pieces of the lectotype. However, this sheet has also been recently annotated indicating that the collector was Dallachy and the collection was in August 1849.


**Prostrate to weakly erect shrubs** to c. 0.5 m high, with inflorescences typically borne on a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent to almost spreading, terete, 0.3–0.5 mm wide, sparsely to moderately hairy; hairs 0.2–0.5 mm long; epicuticular wax sometimes developed. **Stipules** narrow-triangular to setaceous, 1–2 mm long, erect or more often widely divergent and/or becoming recurved, red-brown, hairy, glabrescent, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 60–90º. **Leaves** alternate; petiole 0.2–0.5 mm long; articulation obscure; lamina elliptic or c. circular, mostly 2.5–5 mm long, 2–5 mm wide, with l:w ratio 1.1–1.6, ±flat or sometimes slightly concave proximally, markedly discolorous; base usually slightly asymmetrical, cordate or truncate; margin slightly recurved to slightly revolute, hairy at first, with persistent tubercles; apex rounded to obtuse, straight or slightly recurved; apiculum hardly

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Muelleria 133
developed or to 0.5–0.8 mm long, setaceous, generally brittle, mostly recurved, sometimes slightly hooked; upper surface smooth or minutely tuberculate, with venation variably raised, glabrescent; lower surface hairy throughout or glabrous except for veins. Inflorescences: axes contracted or to c. 3 mm long; bract 0.5–1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel (3–)6–20 mm long, hairy; bracteoles persistent, elliptic, broad-elliptic, oblong-elliptic, or obovate, with l:w ratio 1.2–2, loosely appressed or divergent, mostly inserted in distal half, flat or slightly convex, sometimes with margins recurved with apex ±flat, 1-nerved or with venation obscure, glabrous or hairy, brown or red-brown. Calyx 3–4.5 mm long, hairy, with tube shorter than or equal to upper lobes; upper lobes 1.5–2.5 mm long, 2–3 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 0.5–1.5 mm; lateral angle subacute, sometimes minutely acuminate; sinus 1–1.5 mm deep; lower lobes 1–2 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to 0.5–1.5 mm; lateral angle subacute, mostly recurved or with marginal teeth, red-brown, hairy, glabrescent, faintly keeled; keel c. 3 mm wide, pale proximally, dark red distally; wings c. as long as keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat not bisected, ovary with hairy margins, 5–12-ovulate; style 1.5–2 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, with base c. 0.7 mm long, with lobe curving c. 180º (Figs 6d, 10g).

Inflorescences: axes contracted or to c. 3 mm long; bract 0.5–1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel (3–)6–20 mm long, hairy; bracteoles persistent, elliptic, broad-elliptic, oblong-elliptic, or obovate, with l:w ratio 1.2–2, loosely appressed or divergent, mostly inserted in distal half, flat or slightly convex, sometimes with margins recurved with apex ±flat, 1-nerved or with venation obscure, glabrous or hairy, brown or red-brown. Calyx 3–4.5 mm long, hairy, with tube shorter than or equal to upper lobes; upper lobes 1.5–2.5 mm long, 2–3 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 0.5–1.5 mm; lateral angle subacute, sometimes minutely acuminate; sinus 1–1.5 mm deep; lower lobes 1–2 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to 0.5–1.5 mm; lateral angle subacute, mostly recurved or with marginal teeth, red-brown, hairy, glabrescent, faintly keeled; keel c. 3 mm wide, pale proximally, dark red distally; wings c. as long as keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat not bisected, ovary with hairy margins, 5–12-ovulate; style 1.5–2 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, with base c. 0.7 mm long, with lobe curving c. 180º (Figs 6d, 10g).

Selected specimens from c. 150 examined: QUEENSLAND: Catchment of Precipice Creek, Precipice National Park, P.J.Forster 19736, 25.ix.1996 (BRI, MEL, NSW); Kroombit Creek, SW of Annies Gorge, Kroombit National Park, J.Brushe 665 & R.Hendry, 31.xii.1996 (BRI); State Forest 665, 4 km SE of Crows Nest, A.R.Bean 7953 & J.Thompson, 13.xi.1996 (BRI); Barakula State Forest, V.Hando 13, 3.x.1978 (BRI). NEW SOUTH WALES: Tia Falls, 100 m E of picnic area, Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, L.M.Copeland 4478, 2.xi.2010 (BRI, CANB, MEL, NSW); Tinderry Mountains, Tinderry Nature Reserve, G.Stewart 293 & P.Whigham, 13.xi.1984 (CANB, MEL, NSW); c. 14 km from Delegate toward Bombala, E.J.Carroll, 16.xii.1965 (CANB, MEL); Intersection of Oellen Ford and Yarralaw Rds, c. 10 km N of Windellama, L.R.Thompson 1279, 30.ix.2010 (BRI, CANB, MEL). VICTORIA: Mail-box Gully, near Wulgulmerang Creek, on road to Deddick, J.H.Willis, 29.xi.1962 (MEL); Yambullah peak track, 4.8 km E of Mt Coopracambra, N.G.Walsh 1218, x.1983 (MEL); Buchan River at Diggers Hole Track crossing, 6 km SW of Mt Seldom Seen, S.J.Forbes 3200, 3.xi.1986 (CANB, MEL, NSW); Providence ponds FFR, A.C.Beauglehole 78751, 22.x.1987 (CANB, HO, MEL).

Flowering period: Flowers from spring to early summer.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in south-eastern Queensland south from Kroombit Tops, in eastern New South Wales, and in eastern Victoria (Fig. 7d). Grows in dry sclerophyll forest and woodland.

Notes: Bossiaea buxifolia is a widespread species which exhibits a moderate amount of variation in habit, flower size, pedicel length and pod size and ovule number. It is not always easily distinguished from B. neoanglica q.v. and B. decumbens q.v.

Typification: There appears to have been several specimens that Cunningham would have had access to when describing the species. As Cunningham did not cite a specimen or location when naming B. buxifolia, the selection of the three pieces barcoded as K000278436 by Alma Lee in concert with A.B.Court (Lee 1970; sheet annotated by Court) as the holotype, in effect lectotypified this sheet.

13. Bossiaea neoanglica F.Muell., Fragm. 5(32): 106 (1865), as Neo-Anglica


Prostrate to weakly erect shrubs to c. 0.5 m high, or higher when supported, with inflorescences typically borne on a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent to almost spreading, c. terete, 0.3–0.5 mm wide, moderately hairy; hairs sometimes curly, 0.5–0.8 mm long; epidermis not developed. Stipules narrow-triangular to filiform, 2–3.5 mm long, mostly recurved or almost decurved, red-brown, hairy, glabrescent, faintly 1-nerved; stipule-petiole angle 60–90º. Leaves alternate; petiole 0.5–0.8 mm long, articulation sometimes slightly
geniculate and/or slightly ridged, sometimes obscure; lamina ovate or broad-ovate, 2–8 mm long, 2–7 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1.2–1.8, flat or sometimes slightly concave proximally, markedly discolorous; base mostly asymmetrical, cordate or truncate; margin slightly recurved to slightly revolute, glabrescent, finally minutely tuberculate; apex rounded to acute, flat or recurved; apiculum mostly 0.5–1 mm long, setaceous, minutely tuberculate; apex rounded to acute, flat or slightly recurved to slightly revolute, glabrescent, finally base mostly asymmetrical, cordate or truncate; margin slightly concave proximally, markedly discolorous; wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1.2–1.8, flat or sometimes lamina ovate or broad-ovate, 2–8 mm long, 2–7 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1.2–1.8, flat or occasionally more distally, nearly flat or gently convex, with apex sometimes slightly incurved, faintly 1-nerved, glabrous, red-brown. Calyx 3–4 mm long, glabrous or hairy, with tube shorter than or equal to upper lobes; upper lobes 2–2.5 mm long, 2–3 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by c. 1 mm; lateral angle subacute or obtuse, sometimes minutely acuminate; sinus 1–2 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.5 mm long, c. 0.7 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 8 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially red ±throughout; wings c. as long as keel, c. 2 mm wide, red streaked, variously pale purplish-brown or yellow distally; keel 2.5–3 mm wide, pale proximally, red distally; anthers c. 0.4 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary hairy throughout or on margins, 6–8-ovulate; style 2–3 mm long. Pods: stipe 1–2 mm long; body oblong, 15–25 mm long, 6–8 mm wide, with long, spreading hairs on valves and margins or valves sometimes glabrous (a few hairs usually present early in development); upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, not or hardly ridged. Seeds 2.5–3 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide; aril 1–1.3 mm long, 0.8 mm high, with base c. 0.6 mm long, with lobe curving c. 180° (Fig. 6c).

**Selected specimens from c. 60 examined:**

**QUEENSLAND:** Kooroombit Tops State Forest, 2.1 km S of Locked Gate sign on loop road to Annies Gorge, J.Bruce 680 & R.Hendry, 30.xii.1996 (BRI); Mt Bangalore, Main Range National Park, P.J.Forster 12229 & G.Leiper, 29.x.1992 (BRI, MEL, NSW); New England Hwy, 8.8 km S of Crows Nest, A.R.Bean 17310, 26.i.2001 (BRI).

**NEW SOUTH WALES:** Gibraltar Range, c. 59.5 km NE of Glen Innes, J.B.Williams, xi.1959 (NE); track to Dandahra Falls, Gibraltar Range National Park, R.G.Coveny 16686 & A.J.Whalen, 19.x.1993 (BRI, MEL, NE, NSW); 60 Foot Falls track, freeway underpass, Mittagong, G.T.Chandler 963, 27.ix.1999 (CANB); 0.7 km S of the S lake picnic area, Thirlmores Lakes National Park via Buxton, A.V.Slee 2302, 18.x.1988 (CANB); Gloucester Tops, c. 59 km from Gloucester, J.Pulley 711, 11.ii.1971 (CANB); Doughboy Range, Ebor area, R.W.Jessup 237, 18.xi.1953 (CANB); 1.1 km along track to Basket Swamp rest area, 16.9 km NE of Tenterfield, Boonoo State Forest, P.C.Jobson 5203 & S.A.Mills, 25.x.1997 (MEL, NSW); 11.4 km NNW of Oakdale, P.C.Jobson 3758, 17.ix.1995 (BRI, MEL, NSW); c. 1.5 km E of Cocrofts Rd along Mesa Management Trail, Werrikimbe National Park, c. 60 km SE of Walcha, L.M.Copeland 4476, 2.xi.2010 (CANB, MEL, NSW).

**Flowering period:** Flowers sporadically, but mostly in spring.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in south-eastern Queensland south from Kooroombit Tops, and in north-eastern and central-eastern New South Wales as far south as Fitzroy Falls (Fig. 7e). Grows in open forest and woodland.

**Notes:** Bossiaea neoanglica is superficially very similar to *B. buxifolia* but, apart from differences indicated in key, has longer stipules, leaves that are more markedly asymmetrical, more strongly discolorous, and with a usually more distinct articulation (under magnification), and a usually longer apiculum. The long apiculum is brittle and on herbarium sheets a high proportion are reduced in length due to breakage. A form from central-eastern New South Wales differs fairly consistently from the type form from north-eastern New South Wales and south-eastern Queensland in having glabrous or near-glabrous pedicels and calyces, and ovaries/pods glabrous or only sparsely hairy on the faces.

**Group D**

**Subshrubs or shrubs,** often prostrate; branchlets mostly compressed, with decurrencies sometimes well-developed but not winged, sometimes spinescent. **Stipules** narrow-triangular, generally erect, sometimes green, generally ±glabrous. **Leaves** with articulation generally markedly geniculate; lamina with gland-dotting generally evident; apiculum generally inconspicuous. **Inflorescences:** axes with scales 2, or sometimes leafy; inflorescences sometimes somewhat elongated; bract and bracteoles generally strongly convex, often striate, bracteoles sometimes caducous, often relatively slender, inserted in proximal or middle...
Calyx mostly hairy, with lobes often filiform apically and with lower lobes as long as or longer than upper lobes and tube; upper lobes mostly ±oblong, as long as or longer than broad, often abruptly broadening at apex, not expanded beyond lateral angle. Corolla sometimes almost entirely yellow. Pods short-stipitate, mostly hairy on margins, sometimes hairy on valve faces also. Aril mostly small, with base short and lobe moderately to strongly arched (Fig. 8).

Group D contains seven species divided into three subgroups. It occurs in south-eastern Queensland, eastern New South Wales, south-eastern and southern Victoria, Tasmania, and south-eastern South Australia (Fig. 9).

The Prostrata subgroup (species 14 & 15) is distinguished from the Scortechinii subgroup by the more or less flat leaflet-margins, narrower, more scarious stipules, more consistently suppressed inflorescence axes, and the typically glabrous pod-valves.

The Scortechinii subgroup (species 16–18) has leaflets with recurved to revolute margins, stipules that are somewhat persistently green at least in part, inflorescences that sometimes become markedly elongated, filiform calyx-lobe apices, petals with relatively little or no red coloration, and hairy pod-valves. The stipules in this subgroup are similar in form to the much larger stipules of *B. stephensonii* (Group E).

**Figure 8. Group D.** a. *Bossiaea nummularia* (A.A.Hamilton NSW 43654); b. *B. obovata* (L.M.Copeland 4483 MEL); c. *B. scortechinii* (L.M.Copeland 4493 MEL); d. *B. prostrata* (I.R.Thompson s.n., 6.xi.2010 MEL); e. *B. prostrata*, scale, bract and bracteoles (R.V.Smith 59/247 MEL); f. *B. scortechinii*, pod (L.M.Copeland 4493 MEL); g. *B. obcordata*, spinescent branch (N.M.Taws 527 CANB); h. *B. tasmanica*, sub-spinescent branch; i. *B. obcordata* (M.E.Phillips 3 CANB); j. *B. tasmanica* (Leaman, 8.xii.2010 MEL).

Scale bars: a–d = 10 mm, e, f, i, j = 5 mm, g, h = 2 mm.
The Obcordata subgroup (species 19 & 20) is distinguished from all other eastern species by its spinescent or subspinescent branchlets. There are several Western Australian species of *Bossiaea* with spinescent branchlets, and there is generally not a lot of difference, with the exception perhaps of their woolly keel-apices and more setaceous stipules, between these western and eastern species. *Bossiaea tasmanica* has more features in common with the other subgroups of Group D, while *B. obcordata* has more features that link it to Group E. The branching pattern in *B. obcordata* is also similar to that seen in the Cordigera subgroup of Group C.

The Prostrata subgroup


Prostrate or decumbent subshrubs to ca. 0.2 m high, with inflorescences borne on branchlets of various lengths, sometimes on a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, slightly to moderately compressed, 0.6–1 mm wide, without decurrent ridges, moderately hairy; hairs ca. 0.3 mm long; epicuticular wax sometimes developed. *Stipules* narrow-triangular, sometimes filiform distally, 1–2.5 mm long, erect or slightly divergent, sometimes partly herbaceous at first, becoming brown, glabrous or hairy, 1-nerved; stipule-petiole angle 45–90°. *Leaves:* petiole 0.5–1 mm long; articulation slightly to moderately geniculate, sometimes obscure, not ridged; lamina broad-elliptic, or less often suborbicular or slightly broad-ovate, 2–12 mm long, 2–6 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1–2, ±flat, mildly discolorous; base symmetrical, broadly rounded to slightly cordate; margin flat or

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**Key to Group D**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Species</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Branchlets not spinescent.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1: Branchlets spinescent or subspinescent (tapering to a blunt point).</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ovaries and pods with hairs restricted to sutures (rarely with hairs all over in <em>B. prostrata</em>); leaflet margin nearly flat; standard extensively marked red abaxially; stipules generally brown;</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Petioles ≤ 1 mm long; bracteoles generally persistent, mostly inserted in middle third of pedicel; standard-limb ± solidly red abaxially.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Leaflets predominantly obovate; pedicels mostly &lt; 5 mm long.</td>
<td>18. <em>B. obovata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Petioles &gt; 1 mm long; leaflets with l:w ratio mostly &lt; 3; bracteoles narrow-elliptic; pods 6–8 mm wide.</td>
<td>16. <em>B. dasycarpa</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Prostrate or low-growing shrubs; calyx hairy; keel-apex greenish-yellow, sometimes tinged pink; pod valves hairy (Tasmania).</td>
<td>19. <em>B. tasmanica</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6: Erect shrubs; calyx glabrous or nearly so; keel-apex dark red; pod valves glabrous (mainland states).</td>
<td>20. <em>B. obcordata</em></td>
</tr>
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</table>
slightly recurved, glabrescent, sometimes sparsely and minutely tuberculate; apex broadly rounded to obtuse, or occasionally acute, sometimes minutely acuminate, sometimes downcurved; apiculum to c. 0.3 mm long, brittle, pointing forward to moderately downward; upper surface smooth, with venation generally obscure, with gland-dotting usually evident, with appressed hairs or glabrescent; lower surface gradually glabrescent. **Inflorescences**: axes contracted or rarely to c. 1 mm long, inflorescences rarely with a short rachis developed when 2-flowered; bract 1–1.5 mm long, 0.6–0.8 mm wide, moderately convex; pedicel 3–15 mm long, commonly > 8 mm long, hairy, with hairs commonly appressed; bracteoles generally persistent, ovate to narrow-ovate or narrow-oblanceolate, 1–2 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–3, loosely appressed or divergent, inserted in middle third of pedicel, or occasionally more proximally, moderately convex, 1-nerved or with venation obscure, usually hairy, especially distally, red-brown. **Calyx**: 3.5–4.5 mm long, hairy, sometimes near-glabrous proximally, with tube c. equal in length to lobes; upper lobes 1.3–2.5 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide; lateral angle acute or acuminate; sinus 1–1.5 mm deep; lower lobes 1.3–2.5 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 9 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially ±entirely red; wings c. as long as keel, 2–2.5 mm wide, brownish-red throughout or nearly so; keel 2.5–3 mm wide, pale proximally, red distally; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary with hairy margins, 6–8-ovulate; style 1.5–2.5 mm long. **Pedicel**: 3–15 mm long, commonly 2-flowered; bract 1–1.5 mm long, 0.6–0.8 mm wide, hairy, generally persistent, ovate to narrow-ovate or narrow-oblong, 1–2 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–3, loosely appressed or divergent, inserted in middle third of the pedicel. In addition, the abaxial surface of the standard is a solid red rather than with long, radiating pale streaks as in *B. prostrata*. Branchlets are generally slightly less compressed than those of *B. prostrata* and can become more extensively covered with epicuticular wax. **Bossiaea nummularia** can develop a series of short side-branchlets similar to that seen in *B. buxifolia*, whereas *B. prostrata* does not generally do so.

The distribution of *B. nummularia* overlaps that of *B. prostrata* and there are several mixed collections containing these two species. *Bossiaea nummularia* also approaches *B. buxifolia* in some respects and these two species also overlap in distribution. *Bossiaea buxifolia* differs in having branchlets more nearly terete, stipules darker red, more slender and more recurved, an always obscure leaflet-articulation, a slightly asymmetric leaflet-base, more recurved leaflet-margins, and bracteoles that are inserted more distally, more divergent and tending to be inserted towards the same side of the pedicel.

**Typification**: The evidence from probable type material of *B. nummularia* housed at W, and the description in the protologue is sufficient I believe to assign the name *B. nummularia* to the taxon described above. The main anomaly is the apparent colour of the petals in the holotype material which appear to be all yellow rather than with red markings. *Bossiaea linnaeoides* is another potential synonym for this taxon, and this name was published earlier than *B. nummularia*; however, it is unclear from the description of *B. linnaeoides* to which taxon Don was referring, and no specimens or illustrations are known to the author.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in south-eastern and central-eastern New South Wales, mostly south of Goulburn and in the Sydney region, with an outlier in north-eastern New South Wales near Armidale (Fig. 9b). Grows in woodland and open forest.

**Notes**: *Bossiaea nummularia* is superficially similar to *B. prostrata*, but differs from that species by having smaller leaves with a more uniform shape, shorter petioles, a less geniculate leaflet-articulation, narrower bracts, and more persistent bracteoles that are inserted mostly in the middle third rather than proximal third of the pedicel. In addition, the abaxial surface of the standard is a solid red rather than with long, radiating pale streaks as in *B. prostrata*. Branchlets are generally slightly less compressed than those of *B. prostrata* and can become more extensively covered with epicuticular wax. *Bossiaea nummularia* can develop a series of short side-branchlets similar to that seen in *B. buxifolia*, whereas *B. prostrata* does not generally do so.

**Selected specimens from c. 25 examined**: NEW SOUTH WALES: Parramatta, W.Woolfs (MEL); Whalan, R.Coveny 17247 & S.Goodwin, 13.ix.1984 (MEL, NSW); Duck River, Clyde, A.A.Hamilton, ix.1914 (NSW); Marayong, P.Hind, s.n., ix.1967 (NSW); Lumley Rd, 1 km N of Jacqua Rd, c. 30 km direct S of Goulburn, J.R.Thompson 1331, 24.xi.2010 (CANB, MEL, NSW); near Crookwell, J.M.Downes, 25.xi.1983 (NSW); 1.5 km E of Gara River crossing on Armidale–Grafton road, B.J.Wallace 012/86 & P.G.Abell, 22.iv.1986 (NSW).

**Flowering period**: Flowers from August to October.

Residual syntypes: MEL 1528713, MEL 1528712, NSW171069 [These sheets are either mixtures of *B. prostrata* and *B. nummularia* or are entirely of *B. nummularia*.]

**Prostrate or decumbent subshrubs** to c. 0.2 m high, with inflorescences borne on branchlets of various lengths, but not typically on a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, moderately compressed, 0.2–0.8 mm wide, sometimes with decurrent ridges, mostly sparsely hairy, glabrescent; hairs c. 0.3 mm long; epicuticular wax sometimes weakly developed. **Stipules** narrow-triangular, 0.8–1.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, erect, herbaceous at first, becoming brown, glabrous, 1-nerved or obscurely multinerved; stipule-petiole angle 30–60º. **Leaves**: petiole 1–5 mm long; articulation strongly geniculate, generally slightly ridged; lamina circular, oblong to elliptic, or ovate to lanceolate, 4–15–25 mm long, 2–15 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1–3, generally flat or convex each side of midrib distally, mildly discolorous; base symmetrical, truncate to slightly cordate; margin ±flat, pointing forwards or down; upper surface smooth, with venation commonly slightly raised, with gland-dotting usually evident, glabrous or glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. **Inflorescences**: axes contracted or to c. 2 mm long; bract 1.5–2.5 mm long, 1–1.5 mm wide, strongly convex abaxially, generally conspicuously striate, often caducous; pedicel (2–)5–20 mm long, hairy, with hairs commonly spreading; bracteoles caducous before or after anthesis, narrow-elliptic, narrow- to very-narrow oblong, or oblanceolate, 1.5–3.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–5, loosely appressed or divergent, inserted mostly in proximal third, often close to base, strongly convex, 4–8-nerved, usually hairy, especially medially and distally, red-brown. **Calyx** 3–4.5 mm long, hairy, with tube equal to or shorter than lobes; upper lobes 2–3 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide, abruptly broadening at apex; lateral angle acuminate; sinus 0.5–1 mm deep; lower lobes 1.5–3 mm long, filiform distally, c. 0.8 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 9 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially red except for pale radiating lines; wings c. as long as keel, 2–2.5 mm wide, brownish-red throughout or giving way to yellow distally; keel 2.5–3 mm wide, pale proximally abruptly giving way to red in distal half; anthers c. 0.4 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary with hairy margins, 8–10-ovulate; style 2–3 mm long. **Pods**: stipe 1–3 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 20–30 mm long, 5–7 mm wide, mostly with one or both margins hairy, rarely glabrous, rarely hairy on valves; upper margin 0.7 mm wide, flat to gently convex, occasionally with a small sutural ridge. **Seeds** 2–3 mm long, 1–1.8 mm wide; aril 0.8–1.2 mm long, 0.5–0.8 mm high, with base c. 0.5 mm long, with lobe curving 150–180º (Fig. 8d–e).

**Selected specimens from c. 300 examined**:


**Flowering period**: Flowers in spring.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in south-eastern South Australia, south-eastern Queensland, eastern New South Wales, southern Victoria and Tasmania (Fig. 9a). Grows in grassland, woodland and open forest.

**Notes**: *Bossiaea prostrata* is the most widespread species in the eastern half of Australia. It can be
distinguished from all other species in Group D by its broad bracts and relatively proximally inserted and caducous bracteoles, and, except for B. dasycarpa, by its longer petioles. Two-flowered inflorescences are more common than in other species, and occasionally appear to be arranged in paniculate conflorescences due to reduction or absence of subtending leaves. The two inflorescence scales are relatively large and entire in B. prostrata, i.e., they more closely resemble the bract than in other species. In many species of Bossiaea inflorescence scales are trifid rather than entire.

Although the vast majority of collections show the faces of ovaries/valves of fruit to be glabrous, some specimens with hairs throughout have been collected, e.g., from Strathewen in south-central Victoria (Kilgour 466 MEL), the Grampians in south-western Victoria (D.Symon 1771 AD) and the Southern Lofty region of South Australia (e.g., Blaylock SG34 AD). The first two of these records are in multi-piece collections and the atypical indumentum was only present in some of the pieces. Occasional collections with very short pedicels, e.g., Orbost, in south-eastern Victoria (Shoobridge CANB) are thought to be aberrant development rather than being typical of the population.

**Hybridisation:** A probable hybrid between B. prostrata and B. ensata has been recorded from near Bermagui (N.Schultz 132 CANB). It is leafy throughout and has winged branchlets approaching the width of those of B. ensata. A small sterile plant collected from an unknown locality (Australia felix) in Victoria (F.Mueller MEL 668111) is possibly a hybrid between Bossiaea sericea and B. prostrata.

**The Scortechinii subgroup**

16. **Bossiaea dasycarpa** I.Thomps., sp. nov.

A. B. scortechinii F.Muell. **petiolo longiore, foliolis ad marginem minus recurvatis, leguminibus latoribus differt;** a B. prostrata R.Br. **stipulis latioribus, foliolis ad marginem recurvatis, bracteis angustioribus, bracteolis pedicello in medio insertis persistentibus, valvis leguminis semper hirsutis differt.**


**Bossiaea prostrata** var. Tuan Creek (M.S.Clemens AQ22827).

**Prostrate or decumbent subshrubs** to c. 0.4 m high, with inflorescences mostly borne on longer branchlets rather than a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, mildly compressed, 0.5–0.8 mm wide, with recurrent ridges sometimes distinct, sparsely hairy; hairs 0.3–0.5 mm long; epicuticular wax sometimes present. **Stipules** triangular to narrowly triangular, 1.5–3 mm long, with l:w ratio 2–3, erect, herbaceous, glabrous, 1–3-nerved; stipule-petiole angle 45–90°. **Leaves:** petiole 1.5–4 mm long; articulation strongly geniculate, not ridged; lamina narrow-oblong, narrow oblong-elliptic or slightly obovate, 10–20 mm long, 3–7 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1.5–3.5, flat or slightly convex each side of midrib, mildly discoloured; base symmetrical, slightly cordate to rounded; margin recurved to revolute, variably hairy and tuberculate; apex truncate to subacute, sometimes minutely acuminate with acuminate region recurved; apiculum variably distinct, to c. 0.3 long, often brittle, pointing down; upper surface smooth, with venation usually raised, with gland-dotting evident, soon glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. **Inflorescences:** axes contracted or short, sometimes multinoded, sometimes with a leaf and stipules developed instead of scales; inflorescences sometimes of a few flowers in a raceme-like arrangement, with a rudimentary or a leafy axis beyond flowers, or sometimes a solitary axillary flower subtended by a leaf or scale arising along a leafy branch; bract 1–1.5 mm long, 0.6–1 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel mostly 5–30 mm long, hairy; bracteoles persistent or sometimes caducous at or soon after anthesis, very narrow-elliptic, very-narrow oblong, or lanceolate, 2–3 mm long, with l:w ratio 2–6, mostly loosely appressed, inserted mostly in middle third, convex, with apex nearly flat, 1–3-nerved, usually sparsely hairy, orange-brown. **Calyx** 4–5 mm long, hairy, with tube c. equal to lobes; upper lobes 2–2.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, abruptly broadening at apex; lateral angle acuminate; sinus 1.5–2 mm deep; lower lobes 2–3 mm long, filiform distally, c. 1 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 10 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a narrow flare, abaxially often flushed red; wings c. as long as keel, c. 2 mm wide, mainly yellow; keel c. 3 mm wide, pale proximally, usually red in distal third; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary hairy, 8–10-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. **Pods:** stipe 1–2 mm long; body narrow-oblong,
20–30 mm long, 6–8 mm wide, hairy all over; hairs to c. 0.8 mm long on valves and c. 0.5 mm long on sutures; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, gently convex, sometimes minutely ridged along suture. Seeds 2.5–3 mm long, 2 mm wide; aril c. 0.8 mm long, c. 0.5 mm high, with base c. 0.4 mm long, with lobe curving 100–150°.

**Selected specimens from c. 12 examined:** QUEENSLAND: Gheerulla West LA, Mapleton State Forest, NW of Mapleton, A.R.Bean 10758, 21.ix.1996 (BRI); Childers, C.H.Gittins 280, viii.1959 (CANB); State Forest 1294 (Kullogum), c. 25.5 km SE of Childers, K.M.Sparshott 735 & R.J.Price, 31.i.1996 (BRI); Maryborough, M.S.Clemens, 1948 (MEL); Tuan Creek near Maryborough, M.S.Clemens, 12.x.1948 (BRI); Coast Range, 9 km S of Biggenden, P.Young 673, ix.1983 (BRI); Mt Barney slopes, Macpherson Range, E.F.Constable s.n., 15.xi.1952 (NSW). NEW SOUTH WALES: E side of Emmaville Rd, 20.5 km NW of Glen Innes, P.C.Jobson 5154 & S.A.Mills, 23.x.1997 (CANB, MEL, NSW); Bundjalung National Park, 1.6 km S of Evans Head, R.Coveny 5116, 2.ix.1973 (NSW); c. 14 km SE of Hillgrove on Long Point Rd, J.B.Williams, 12.x.1972 (NE); Wollombi Falls, H.Wissman, 23.x.1963 (NSW).

**Flowering period:** Flowers in mid to late spring.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in south-eastern Queensland south from the Maryborough district and in north-eastern New South Wales as far south as Hillgrove (Fig. 9c). Grows in woodland and grassland. Recorded from areas of sandstone and rhyolite geology.

**Etymology:** The epithet refers to the pods which are hairy all over (from Greek, *dasys*, hairy and *carpos*, fruit).

**Notes:** *Bossiaea dasycarpa* is similar to *B. scortechinii* but has leaves with a longer petiole, less recurved margins and a lower length to width ratio, and pods are markedly broader. In addition bracteoles of *B. dasycarpa* tend to be less linear than those of *B. scortechinii*, and the keel is more strongly marked red. *Bossiaea dasycarpa*

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is also similar to *B. prostrata* but has leaves with recurved margins, petals with smaller amounts of red markings, narrower bracts and bracteoles, firmer herbaceous stipules, and, in most cases, hairy pod-valves. Hairy pod-valves have been recorded for *B. prostrata* in South Australia and Victoria but not in the region of distributional overlap with *B. dasycarpa*.

Specimens of *B. dasycarpa* have historically been identified as either *B. scortechinii* or *B. prostrata*. Based on annotations on a few herbarium specimens at BRI, C.T.White planned to name *B. dasycarpa* as *B. prostrata* var. *publicarpa*; however, this name was never published. More recently, it has been informally identified as *B. prostrata* var. Tuan Creek (M.S.Clemens AQ22827).

17. *Bossiaea scortechinii* F.Muell., *S. Sci. Rec.* 3(1): 1 (1883), as *Scortechinii*

**Type:** [Protologue: ‘On the Dumaresq River; Rev. B. Scortechini’] Queensland. Dumaresq River, Stanthorpe, *B.Scortechini* 369, date unknown; holotype: MEL 18891.

*Prostrate or decumbent subshrubs* to c. 0.4 m high, with inflorescences borne on branchlets of various lengths, but not typically on a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent to almost length; decurrent ridges, moderately hairy; hairs c. 0.5 mm spreading, mildly compressed, 0.3–0.8 mm wide, with side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent to almost linear, 1–2.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 3–10, mostly loosely appressed or mildly divergent, inserted mostly in middle third, strongly convex, with apex slightly convex or flat, sometimes filiform, 1-nerved, sparsely hairy or glabrous, pale yellowish or light orange-brown. *Calyx* 3–5 mm long, hairy, with tube c. equal to lobes; upper lobes 2–3 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide, abruptly broadening at apex; lateral angle acuminate; sinus c. 1 mm deep; lower lobes 2–3 mm long, filiform distally, 0.7–1 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat, with median lobe often slightly longer than laterals; standard to c. 10 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, yellow, possibly without a flare; wings c. as long as keel, c. 1.5 mm wide, yellow; keel 2–3 mm wide, pale throughout or with pink tinges apically; anthers c. 0.3 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary hairy, c. 8-ovulate; style 2–3 mm long. *Pods*: stipe 1–2 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 19–25 mm long, 4–6 mm wide, hairy on margins and valves; hairs on valves to c. 1 mm long, slightly appressed; hairs on sutures c. 0.5 mm long; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, not ridged. *Seeds* 2–3 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide; aril 0.8–1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm high, with base c. 0.4 mm long, with lobe curving 120–180º (Fig. 8c, f).

**Selected specimens from c. 70 examined:** QUEENSLAND: Jibbinbar Mountain, N boundary of Sundown National Park, P. Forster 19801, 12.x.1996 (BRI, MEL); c. 1.5 km S of Dalveen on Stanthorpe Rd, Darling Downs, S.L.Everist & L.J.Webb 1299, 21.xi.1946 (BRI, CANB); 11.5 km E of Miriam Vale, E.J.Thompson MIR213 & D.Baumgartner, 4.ix.1996 (BRI, MEL). NEW SOUTH WALES: Gooonoowigall State Conservation Area, c. 5 km S of Inverell, 1 km E of picnic area, L.M.Copeland 4493, 8.xii.2010 (BRI, CANB, MEL, NSW); c. 15 km S of Grafton, J & P. Edwards, 2001 (NSW); Jennings, J.H.Maiden & J.L.Boorman, xii.1903 (NSW); W end of Gooonoowigall Nature Reserve, 10 km S of Inverell, G.J.White, 30.xi.1992 (NE); ‘Strathbogie’ 11 km W of Emmaville, E.J.McAlister, 7.iv.1977 (NE); Demon Nature Reserve, c. 30 km SE of Tenterfield, J.T.Hunter 4894, 15.iii.1997 (NE).

**Flowering period:** Flowers mostly in spring, but also at other times, presumably in response to rainfall.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in south-eastern Queensland south from Miriam Vale, and in north-
eastern New South Wales as far south as Howell near Inverell (Fig. 9d). Grows in sandy soils over granite in heath, woodland and forest.

**Notes:** Species in the Scortechinii subgroup, and in particular *B. scortechinii*, develop a number of inflorescence variations not seen in other eastern Australian species (see Fig. 1d). These variations are evident, however, in a number of Western Australian species, *e.g.*, *B. laxa* J.H.Ross (illustrated in Ross 2006). Typical inflorescences terminating suppressed or very short axes are fairly commonly seen in the Scortechinii subgroup. However, in some plants the axis is elongated beyond the first flower, and if two or three flowers are present the inflorescence is raceme-like. Sometimes these axes grow on and become leafy shoots. Sometimes an axis appears like a normal leafy shoot, but at a node somewhere along the axis a solitary, truly axillary flower is borne. This flower may be subtended by a leaf or a scale.

The Scortechinii subgroup has distinctive calyx-lobe morphology, with lobes tapering to filiform apices. In the upper lobes these are directed forwards. *Bossiaea scortechinii* generally has the most conspicuously filiform calyx-lobes of the subgroup, and the median lower calyx lobe is often distinctly longer than the other filiform calyx-lobes of the subgroup, and the median lower calyx lobe is often distinctly longer than the other filiform calyx-lobes. In *B. neoanglica* the upper lobes these are directed forwards.

**Hybridisation:** A specimen from the Gara River east of Armidale (Wallace 012/86 NSW) may be a hybrid between *B. neoanglica* and *B. scortechinii*.

18. *Bossiaea obovata* I.Thomps., *sp. nov.*

A *B. scortechinii* F.Muell. *foliolis obovatis, pedicellis brevioribus, leguminibus brevioribus, pilis leguminis patentibus plerumque differt*.

**Type:** New South Wales. 1 km along road to Stanthorpe from turn-off 0.5 km N of Wilson’s Downfall on Mt Lindsay Highway, M.D.Crisp 7313 & I.R.Telford, 28.ix.1974; holotype: MEL 668918; isotypes: CANB n.v., NSW 567111.

*Prostrate or decumbent subshrubs* to c. 0.2 m high, with inflorescences borne on short to long branchlets, but not typically on a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, moderately compressed, 0.3–0.8 mm wide, with well-developed decurrent ridges, sparsely to moderately hairy; hairs 0.3–0.5 mm long; epicuticular wax commonly developed. *Stipules* narrow to very narrow-triangular, 1–2 mm long, erect or distally recurved, herbaceous, glabrous, 1–3-nerved; stipule-petiole angle mostly 45–80°. *Leaves:* petiole 0.5–1 mm long; articulation strongly geniculate, not ridged; lamina mostly obovate or cuneate, 2–10 mm long, 1–8 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1–2, flat or concave grading to folded distally, moderately discolorous; base symmetrical, broad-cuneate to rounded; margin recurved to revolute, with scattered hairs and/or tuberculate; apex truncate to subacute, or occasionally emarginate, sometimes recurved; apiculum to 0.3 mm long, mostly pointing down; upper surface smooth or tuberculate, with venation raised, with gland-dotted not evident, with scattered hairs; lower surface with scattered hairs. *Inflorescences:* axes contracted or short, or sometimes multinoded, with a leaf and stipules developed instead of scales; inflorescences sometimes with a few flowers in a raceme-like arrangement, with a rudimentary or a leafy axis beyond flowers, or sometimes a solitary axillary flower subtended by a leaf or scale arising along a leafy branch; bract 1–1.5 mm long, 0.3–0.6 mm wide, moderately convex; pedicel (1–)2–5(–7) mm long, hairy; bracteoles persistent or sometimes caducous soon after anthesis, elliptic to narrow-oblong, 1–2 mm long, with l:w ratio 2–8, mostly loosely appressed, inserted mostly in middle third, slightly to strongly convex, with apex flat or slightly convex, 1-nerved or venation obscure, glabrous, orange-brown or reddish-brown. *Calyx:* 3–4.5 mm long, hairy, with tube c. equal to lobes; upper lobes 2–2.5 mm long, c. 1.5 mm wide, abruptly broadening at apex; lateral angle acute or acuminate; sinus 1.5–2 mm deep; lower lobes 2–3 mm long, 0.8–1 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 10 mm long, slightly longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a slender flare, abaxially sometimes flushed red; wings c. as long as keel, 1.5–2 mm wide, yellow; keel 2.5–3 mm wide, pale throughout or pink at apex; anthers 0.3–0.4 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary hairy, 5- or 6-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. *Pods:* stipe 1–2 mm long; body ±oblong, 12–18 mm long, 5–7 mm wide, hairy on margins and valves, with hairs commonly spreading; hairs on valves 1–1.5 mm long, hairs on margins 0.5–0.8 mm long; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, ±flat. *Seeds:* 2.5–3 mm long, c. 2 mm wide; aril c. 0.8 mm long, c. 0.5 mm high, with base c. 0.4 mm long, with lobe curving c. 90° (Fig. 8b).

**Selected specimens from c. 80 examined:** QUEENSLAND: State Forest 639, Wrattens Forest, 22 km SSE of Kilkivan,
L. Pedley 5560, 15.x.1990 (BRI); Wyberba, D. Hockings, x.1963 (BRI); c. 1.6 km W of Jollys Falls, c. 8 km N of Stathorpe, L. Pedley 1525, 30.x.1963 (BRI); Girraween National Park, C. E. Woolcock, 3.xi.1983 (MEL). **NEW SOUTH WALES**: Burra Swamp, c. 35 km SE of Tenterfield via Spirabo Way in Forestland State Forest, P. C. Jobson 5255 & S. A. Mills, 27.x.1997 (NSW); Wellingrove area, M. Gray 2879, 12.iii.1954 (CANB, NSW); 11 km from Torrington along road to Silent Grove, M. D. Crisp 7347 & I. R. Telford, 29.x.1984 (AD, CANB, MEL); c. 1.5 km E of Cobcrofts Rd along Mesa Management Trail, Werrikimbe National Park, L. Copeland 4474, 2.xi.2010 (BRI, CANB, MEL, NE, NSW).

**Flowering period**: Flowers from October to December, occasionally also in autumn.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in south-eastern Queensland, in the Stathorpe district and also west of Gympie, and in north-eastern New South Wales as far south as Werrikimbe National Park, south-east of Walcha (Fig. 9e). Grows in sandy soils on granite, in open forest and woodland.

**Etymology**: The epithet refers to the typical shape of the leaflet lamina.

**Notes**: Bossiaea obovata differs from the other two species in the Scortechinii subgroup by having obovate leaves, short pedicels and pod-valves with spreading hairs. Specimens of *B. obovata* have in the past been assigned to *B. scortechinii*.

### The Obcordata subgroup


*Prostrate or decumbent shrubs* to c. 0.3 m high, generally densely and irregularly branched, with inflorescences mostly borne on short side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent to almost spreading, often recurving, mildly compressed or c. terete, 0.5–0.8 mm wide, with decurrent ridges mostly obscure, tapering distally, spinescent or with apex blunt, sparsely to moderately hairy, glabrescent; hairs 0.3–0.5 mm long; epicuticular wax commonly developed. *Stipules* narrow-triangular or subulate, 0.8–1.5 mm long, erect, divergent or slightly recurved distally, orange-brown or slightly greenish at first, soon withering to red-brown, glabrous, faintly 1-nerved; stipule-petiole angle 0–60º. *Leaves*: petiole c. 0.5 mm long; articulation strongly geniculate, sometimes ridged; lamina elliptic to obovate, 3–7 mm long, 2–5 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1.2–2, flat or concave grading to more strongly concave or somewhat folded distally, mildly discolorous; base symmetrical, rounded-cuneate; margin flat or more often recurved, with scattered hairs, glabrescent, scarcely tuberculata; apex subacute to truncate, commonly recurved; apiculum to c. 0.2 mm long, pointing down; upper surface smooth, with venation sometimes slightly raised, with gland-dotting generally evident; glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. *Inflorescences*: axes contracted; stipules and small leaves sometimes developed instead of scales; bract 1–1.3 mm long, strongly convex; pedicel 2–3(–6) mm long, glabrous or sparsely hairy, glabrescent; bracteoles commonly caducous by anthesis, narrow-elliptic, narrow-oblong, narrow-ovobate or narrow-spatulate, 1–1.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 2–4, divergent, inserted in proximal half, abaxial surface moderately convex, 1–3-nerved, glabrous or sparsely hairy distally, red-brown. *Calyx* 2.5–4 mm long, hairy, sometimes sparsely so, with tube slightly longer than lobes; upper lobes 1.5–2 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide; lateral angle acute or acuminate; sinus 0.5–1 mm deep; lower lobes 1.2–2.5 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 10 mm long, c. as long as keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially largely brownish-red except for pale radiating lines; wings slightly shorter than keel, 2–2.5 mm wide, purplish-brown throughout or in distal half; keel c. 3 mm wide, pale grading to greenish-yellow, sometimes pink-tinged at apex; anthers c. 0.6 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary hairy, 4-ovulate; style c. 3 mm long. *Pods*: stipe 1–2 mm long; body ±oblong, 15 mm long, 6 mm wide, with hairs to 1.5 mm long on valves and sutures; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, with ridge to c. 0.3 mm high. *Seeds* 2.5–3 mm long, c. 1.5 mm wide; aril c. 0.8 mm long, c. 0.8 mm high, with base c. 0.4 mm long, with lobe curving 150–180º (Fig. 8h, j).

*Selected specimens from c. 14 examined*: **TASMANIA**: Devil Creek headwaters, R. Barnes, 15.xi.2004 (HO); Tower Hill Rd, M. Neyland, 12.xi.1991 (HO); 4 km S of Tunnack, B. French 628,
Flowering period: Flowers in November and December.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in north-eastern Tasmania near Mathinna, and in south-eastern Tasmania south of Oatlands. Originally collected from New Norfolk west of Hobart but not currently known from this locality (Fig. 9g). Rare, and likely to warrant recognition as a threatened species. Grows in loamy, gravelly or skeletal soils derived from mudstone, in forest and woodland.

Etymology: In raising B. cinerea var. rigida to species rank, the epithet rigida could not be used as the name Bossiaea rigida Turcz. had already been published. The new epithet reflects the fact that the species is endemic to Tasmania, and B. tasmanica is in fact Tasmania’s only endemic species of Bossiaea.

Notes: Bossiaea tasmanica appears to be more closely related than B. obcordata to other species in Group D. It can be distinguished from B. obcordata by its more prostrate habit, more wax-encrusted branchlets with obscure decurrencies, blunter, branchlets that are hardly spinous, relatively narrower leaves, narrower bracteoles, hairy calyx and hairy pods, longer petal claws and different petal colours. The leaves are similar in shape to those of B. obovata of the Scortechinii subgroup.

Specimens of B. tasmanica from the type locality of New Norfolk near Hobart in south-eastern Tasmania have a denser indumentum than is seen in other collections. ‘The Rocks’ as given in the protologue is thought likely to be Derbyshire Rocks.


Platylobium obcordatum Vent., Jard. Malmaison: sublt. 31 (1803)

Type: not designated. [Cultivated in Le Jardin de la Malmaison, France from seed collected during the voyage of Baudin, 1802.] Holotype: G, image seen in Geneva Herbarium Catalogue.


Erect shrubs to c. 1 m high, with inflorescences typically borne on a regular series of very short, side-branchlets which in turn are produced along a regular series of short erecto-patent side-branches; branchlets erecto-patent, mildly compressed, 0.5–1 mm wide, with well-developed decurrent ridges, spine-tipped, with spine glabrous, orange-brown, sparsely to moderately hairy; hairs to c. 0.5 mm long; epicuticular wax sometimes developed. Stipules narrow-triangular, 1–2 mm long, ±erect, brown, sparsely hairy, glabrescent, 3-nerved; stipule-petiole angle c. 30–60°. Leaves: petiole 0.5–1.5 mm long; articulation strongly geniculate, with ridge absent or obscure; lamina broad-obovate, obcordate or circular, 3–6 mm long, 2–6 mm wide, with l:w ratio 0.9–1.3, flat or gently convex each side of midrib, mostly markedly discolorous; base symmetrical, rounded to cuneate; margin recurved, glabrescent, ±smooth; apex rounded, truncate or emarginate, sometimes slightly downcurved; apiculum not or hardly developed; upper surface smooth, with venation generally raised, with gland-dotting sometimes evident, glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. Inflorescences: axes contracted or to c. 1 mm long; bract caducous, c. 0.8 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 2–4 mm long, glabrous or sparsely hairy proximally; bracteoles caducous or sometimes persisting to anthesis, elliptic to obovate, 1–1.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, loosely appressed, inserted in middle or proximal thirds, slightly to moderately convex, 3- to 5-nerved, glabrescent, reddish-brown. Calyx 2.5–4.5 mm long, glabrous, or occasionally very sparsely hairy, with tube slightly to much longer than lobes; upper lobes 1–2 mm long, 1.2–2 mm wide; lateral angle acute; sinus 0.5–1 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.5 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to moderately convex, 3- to 5-nerved, glabrescent, reddish-brown. Pods: stipe 2–3 mm long; body elliptic or rhomboid-
Elliptic, 10–20 mm long, 5–9 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, with ridge to c. 0.5 mm high. Seeds 3–3.5 mm long, c. 2 mm wide; aril 1–1.5 mm long, 1–1.5 mm high, with base c. 1 mm long, with lobe curved 60–150º (Fig. 8g, i).


Flowering period: From August to October.

Distribution and habitat: Bossiaea obcordata occurs in far south-eastern Queensland, eastern New South Wales, and southern Victoria extending as far west as the Brisbane Ranges (Fig. 9f). Grows in open forest and woodland.

Notes: In northern New South Wales and Queensland flowers are generally slightly larger. Bossiaea obcordata has leaves with distinctive broad-ovate, generally gland-dotted leaflets, moderately long petals and a strongly geniculate articulation. The erect, three-nerved stipules resemble those in the Scortechinii subgroup but are scarious and red-brown rather than green. Floral and aril morphology and is more similar to that seen in Group E than Group D.

The protologue of P. obcordatum in Le Jardin de la Malmaison appears in the text associated with Plate 31, and is written in a smaller typeface. Plate 31 is an illustration of Platyllobium formosum.

Group E

Erect shrubs, sometimes moderately tall; branchlets compressed or terete, sometimes with decurrencies, sometimes very narrowly winged. Stipules generally erect, sometimes with recurved, distorted, membranous margins. Leaves with petiole mostly adaxially sulcate, with articulation generally geniculate; lamina sometimes asymmetrical, generally not markedly discolorous, with margins commonly flat and sometimes minutely pale-rimmed, with apiculum absent or inconspicuous. Inflorescences: axes with scales 2; bracts and bracteoles moderately convex; pedicels relatively stout, slightly fleshy (commonly wrinkled on drying), becoming stouter as fruit develops; bracteoles mostly inserted proximally. Calyx glabrous, often fleshy, drying blackish, sometimes glaucous or glossy; upper lobes oblong or slightly broadening from the base, mostly broader than long, mostly not or only mildly expanded beyond lateral angle; keel sometimes markedly elongate; wings generally shorter than the keel; anthers relatively small. Pods generally long-stipitate; body glabrous, with valves mostly relatively thick and with a broad thickened upper margin, often with seeds partitioned by spongiose tissue internally (Fig. 10).

Group E contains nine species with seven of these divided into two well-defined subgroups, while the remaining two are placed in subgroups of their own. The group extends from far north Queensland south to Moruya in south-eastern New South Wales, and from the coast to as much as c. 500 km inland (Fig. 11).

The Heterophylla subgroup (species 22–24) is distinguished by compressed branchlets, short stipules, strongly convex, basally inserted bracteoles, a calyx with upper lobes longer than the lower lobes and moderately expanded, and wings distinctly shorter than the keel.

The Brownii subgroup (species 25–28) is distinguished by terete, commonly moderately hairy branchlets, often distorted stipules with revolute membranous margins, and leaves with an asymmetrical base. Within the subgroup, B. carinalis and B. rupicola are clearly distinct in having flowers with an elongate keel. The only other species of eastern Bossiaea to have flowers with an elongated keel is the leafless, arid-zone species B. walkeri (Group F).

The remaining two species of Group E have a number of peculiar features and form subgroups of their own. Bossiaea stephensonii (21) from central-eastern New South Wales has cladode-like branchlets, very large erect green stipules, strongly geniculate and spurred leaves, and an indumentum entirely of relatively long fine hairs, while B. arenicola (29) from far northern Queensland has bracteoles fused into a single structure, a markedly striate calyx with distinctive triangular lobes, and flowers with entirely yellow petals.
Figure 10. Group E. a. *B. rhombifolia* (D.E.Albrecht 5336 MEL); b. *B. rupicola* (J.H.Ross 3125 MEL); c. *B. brownii*, pod, seed among leaves (A.N.Rodd 4173 MEL); d. *B. arenicola* (J.Clarke 7819 MEL); e. *B. brownii*, stipules, base of leaflet, inflorescence (P.I.Forster 24775 MEL); f. *B. heterophylla*, pod-valve, inner surface (A.C.Beauglehole 75827 MEL); g. comparison of upper margin of pods of *B. rhombifolia* (top Woolfs MEL1528730) and *B. buxifolia* (A.C.Beauglehole 68637 MEL); h. *B. rhombifolia*, stipules (D.E.Albrecht 5336 MEL); i. *B. concolor*, stipules (I.R.Thompson 486 MEL); j. *B. stephensonii* (M.Tindale s.n. NSW 55359); k. *B. carinalis*, pod (P.I.Forster 7290 MEL); l. *B. oligosperma*, flower (I.R.Thompson 1278 MEL); m. *B. oligosperma*, leaves and immature pod (I.R.Thompson 1333 MEL); n. *B. arenicola*, flowers (J.Clarke 7819 MEL); o. *B. arenicola*, pod (L.J.Webb & J.G.Tracey 13610 MEL).

Scale bars: a–d = 5 mm, e, f, j, k, m–o = 2 mm, g–i = 1 mm.
The Stephensonii subgroup


Erect shrubs to c. 1 m high, with inflorescences variously borne on longer branchlets or on a regular series of shorter side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, strongly compressed, 1–3 mm wide, with decurrent ridges well-developed, often narrowly winged, sparsely to moderately hairy, generally glabrescent; hairs 1–2 mm long; epicuticular wax not or hardly developed. *Stipules* narrow-ovate to lanceolate, mostly 4–8 mm long, erect, flat, herbaceous, glabrous, conspicuously 4–8-nerved; stipule-petiole angle c. 45°. Leaves: petiole 1.5–3 mm long; articulation strongly geniculate, prominently ridged or with spur to c. 0.5 mm long; lamina narrowly-elliptic or occasionally narrow-oblong or lanceolate, 7–20(–25) mm long, 2–7 mm wide (juvenile leaves to c. 10 mm wide), with l:w ratio mostly 2.5–5, slightly convex each side of midrib, slightly to moderately convex each side of midrib, slightly to moderately

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**Key to Group E**

<table>
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<th>1</th>
<th>Branchlets compressed, glabrous or with a sparse covering of hairs; stipules without membranous often distorted margins ..........................................................................................................................</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:</td>
<td>Branchlets terete, generally moderately covered by a close indumentum; stipules with membranous margins..................................................................................................................................................................................................</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Stipules mostly &gt; 4 mm long, green; indumentum with hairs 1–2 mm long ........................................................................................................................................................................................................</td>
<td>21. <em>B. stephensonii</em></td>
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<td>21</td>
<td><em>B. heterophylla</em></td>
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<td><em>B. rhombifolia</em></td>
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<td><em>B. carinalis</em></td>
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<td><em>B. arenicola</em></td>
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<td>26</td>
<td><em>B. brownii</em></td>
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<td>27</td>
<td><em>B. oligosperma</em></td>
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**Notes:**

- *Stipules* mostly > 4 mm long, green; indumentum with hairs 1–2 mm long
- *Stipules* to c. 10 mm long, c. as long as broad, with apex pointing in almost the same direction as petiole; wing petals 10 mm long, largely brownish-red; leaves with l:w ratio mostly < 1.3
- *Stipules* to c. 0.5 mm long, c. as long as broad, with apex pointing almost at right angles to petiole; wing petals 6 mm long, largely yellow; leaves with l:w ratio mostly > 1.3
- *Keel* to c. 10 mm long, not or hardly exceeding standard; persistent stamen-tube < 12 mm long; pod-stipe 4–10 mm long
- *Leaflets* with l:w ratio mostly < 1.3, with adaxial surface minutely granular, with secondary venation markedly more slender than the midrib; pedicels with straight, appressed hairs
- *Bracteoles* fused to form a single structure; petals lacking red or purple markings; calyx conspicuously striate; ovary hairy (northern Queensland)
- *Bracteoles* free from each other; petals with red or purplish markings; calyx not conspicuously striate; ovary glabrous (southern Queensland; New South Wales)
discolorous; base symmetrical, rounded to truncate; margin flat to recurved, usually knobly and pale; apex acuminate, tapering into an apiculum; apiculum to c. 0.1 mm long, generally pointing slightly down; upper surface smooth or slightly tuberculate, with venation raised, brochidodromous, with gland-dotting generally evident, glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. **Inflorescences**: axes contracted; bract persistent, 2 mm long, c. 1 mm wide, convex; pedicel 3–10 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent until flowering, narrow-oblong or narrow-elliptic, 2–2.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 2.5–3, appressed, inserted near base of pedicel, strongly convex, 3–8-nerved, glabrous, red-brown. **Calyx**: 3–4 mm long, glabrous, with tube equal to or longer than lobes; upper lobes 1.2–1.8 mm long, c. 1.5 mm wide; lateral angle acuminate; sinus 1–1.5 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.8 mm long, 0.8–1 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 12 mm long, similar in length to or slightly longer than wings and keel (shorter before opening), adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat bisected; abaxially reddish interrupted by pale radiating nerves; wings c. equal to keel, c. 2 mm wide, reddish proximally, generally yellow in distal half; keel c. 3 mm wide, pink grading to dark red; anthers c. 0.3 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 4–6-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long, longer than wings and keel (shorter before opening), 1–1.8 mm long, similar in length to or slightly longer than wings and keel (shorter before opening), adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat bisected; abaxially reddish interrupted by pale radiating nerves; wings c. equal to keel, c. 2 mm wide, reddish proximally, generally yellow in distal half; keel c. 3 mm wide, pink grading to dark red; anthers c. 0.3 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 4–6-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. **Pods**: stipe 3–4 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 15–25 mm long, 6–9 mm wide, glabrous, without spongy tissue internally; upper margin 1–1.5 mm wide, with a ridge to c. 0.5 mm high, sometimes ridged along suture only. **Seeds**: 2.5–3 mm long, 1.5–1.8 mm wide; aril 0.8–1.2 mm long, c. 0.8 mm high, with base 0.7–1.2 mm long, with lobe curving c. 90° (Fig. 10j).

**Selected specimens from s. 50 examined**: NEW SOUTH WALES: Port Macquarie, E.R.Brown, ii.1897 (NSW); Gan Gan Hill, R.Payne 2/3, viii.1993 (NSW); outskirts of Gateshead near Newcastle, R.Story 6570, 8.viii.1959 (CANB, MEL); Morisset, J.L.Boorman, x.1899 (NSW); Caley Range, Blue Mountains National Park, W.A.Cherry 576, 5.xi.2004 (NSW); Royal National Park, just E of Engadine Railway Station, M.D.Crisp 7167, 4.x.1983 (AD, CANB, MEL); Scouters Mountain, Heathcote National Park, R.Coveny 11607 & W.Bishop, 1.x.1983 (MEL, NSW).

**Flowering period**: Flowers in winter and spring. Most flowers opening more or less simultaneously.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs near the coast in north-eastern and central-eastern New South Wales from Port Macquarie in the north to Wollongong in the south (Fig. 11a). Grows in open forest, woodland and heathland, often in sandy soils on sandstone, but sometimes also in clay soils.

**Notes**: *Bossiaea stephensonii* is readily identified by its large, erect, green stipules, narrowly winged branchlets, and long hairs. It approaches species in Group D in terms of the relative length of lower calyx-lobes, the relatively large, erect stipules, thin pods, long petioles and geniculate leaflet-articulation. The bracts and bracteoles are similar in size and colour to those of *B. prostrata*.

**Hybridisation**: The type specimen of *B. humilis Meisn.* (see under Names of uncertain application) is possibly a hybrid involving *B. stephensonii*. *Bossiaea obcordata* is a likely candidate as the other parent.

**The Heterophylla subgroup**


**Type**: not designated. [Protologue: ‘... originaire de Botany-Bay, introduit chez Cels en 1792, ... Cultivated plant, grown, presumably, from seeds collected at Botany Bay, New South Wales.] Holotype: t. 7 in *Descr. Pl. Nouv.* 1: 7 (1800).


*Semi-prostrate to erect shrubs* to c. 2 m high, with inflorescences typically borne on longer branchlets rather than a regular series of short side-branchlets; branchlets sub-erect to erecto-patent, moderately
compressed, 1–3 mm wide, with decurrent ridges variably well-developed, occasionally narrowly winged, sparsely to moderately hairy, often glabrescent; hairs c. 0.2 mm long; epicuticular wax sometimes developed. **Stipules** triangular, 0.5–0.8 mm long, appressed, soon withering to dark-brown, glabrous, with venation indistinct; stipule-petiole angle 10–30°. **Leaves:** petiole 0.7–2.0 mm long, sulcate and hairy adaxially; articulation strongly geniculate, often ridged; lamina narrow oblong-elliptic, sometimes appearing almost linear due to rolling, 4–25 mm long, 1.5–6 mm wide, (juvenile leaves to 20 mm wide), with l:w ratio mostly 2–10, flat, incurved or involute, slightly discolorous; base symmetrical, rounded to truncate; margin flat, glabrous, with a smooth pale border; apex subacute; sinus 1–2 mm deep; lower lobes 1–2 mm long, slightly expanded beyond lateral angle; lateral angle to rounded, often recurved; apiculum not developed; base symmetrical, rounded to truncate; margin flat, glabrous, with tube mostly slightly longer than lobes; glabrous, with a smooth pale border; apex subacute.

**Calyx** 3–6 mm long, 2–2.5 mm wide; aril 1–2 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 15 mm long, 2–10, flat, incurved or involute, slightly discolorous; style 2–5 mm long. **Inflorescences:** axes contracted or to c. 3 mm long, 1.5–6 mm wide, occasionally with leaves instead of scales; bract 0.8–1.5 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 3–8 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, oblong to elliptic or ovate, 0.8–2 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, generally appressed, mostly inserted at or below mid-pedicel, convex, with venation obscure or faintly 1-nerved, glabrous, brown or red-brown. **Pods** 3–4 mm long, 2–2.5 mm wide; aril 1–2 mm long, 1–1.5 mm high, with base 1–1.5 mm long, with lobe curving 90–120° (Fig. 10f).

**Selected specimens from c. 200 examined:** **QUEENSLAND:** near Coonarr Beach, 16 km SE of Bundaberg, L.Pedley 4425, 24.iii.1977 (BRI, CANB, NSW); Moreton Island, c. 6.5 km NE of Tangalooma, L.Durrington 1285, 14.iv.1974 (BRI); 5 km WNW of Orchid Beach, Fraser Island, Great Sandy National Park, P.Forster 30253 & G.Leiper, 4.ix.2004 (BRI); Pine Ridge Wildflower Reserve, c. 8 km NNW from Southport, B.Lebler & P.Baxter, 30.iv.1968 (BRI). **NEW SOUTH WALES:** Mororo, NW of Iluka, R.J.Fensham 4921, 20.viii.2003 (BRI); Blackheath, E.Gauba 832, 5.iii.1953 (CANB); Jervis Bay, M.E.Phillips 1109, 3.v.1961 (CANB); Cowan to Jerusalem Bay, H.Salasoo 2126, 2.iv.1961 (NSW); Yena Fire Trail, Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell Peninsula, Botany Bay National Park, D.M.Crayn & R.G.Coveny 938, 28.ix.2005 (NSW); Warrah Trig Station, Gosford, D.Gibbons, 29.iv.1987 (NSW).

**VICTORIA:** N margin of Holeys Plains State Park, M.G.Corrick 10034, 24.xi.1986 (MEL); near Clinton Rocks track, Captain Cook National Park, A.C.Beauglehole 33490, 20.vii.1970 (MEL); railway line between Munro and Fernbank, c. 5 km W of Fernbank, J.Jeanes 169, 29.iii.1995 (MEL); Spermwhale Head, N.A.Wakefield 4741, 18.iv.1953 (MEL).

**Flowering period:** Flowers in autumn and winter mostly.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs towards the coast in south-eastern Queensland, south of Bundaberg, in New South Wales, and in eastern Victoria (Fig. 11b). Categorised as rare in Victoria (Walsh & Stajsic 2007). Grows in heath, woodland and open forest.

**Notes:** **Bossiaea heterophylla** is a widespread species distinguished from the other two species in the subgroup by its broader branchlets, leaflets with a higher length to width ratio and incurved margins, and longer calyx-lobes. In the Sydney area there is a form with broader branchlets and leaves and larger flowers. Dom in named a new variety for a narrower-branched and narrower-leaved form; however, the distinction between the forms appears to be insufficiently discrete to warrant formal taxonomic status. A third form, occurring further south by having pods with a markedly ridged upper margin, shorter keels with paler markings, and shorter styles.

**23. Bossiaea rhombifolia** Sieber ex DC., *Prodr.* 2: 117 (1825)

**Type:** [Protologue: ‘Sieber pl. exs. nov. holl. n. 354’] New South Wales. Location unknown. *F.Sieber 354*; holotype: G-DC, photo seen NSW; isotypes: MEL (4 sheets) 1528739 to 1528742, NSW 566031.
**Bossiaeae rotundifolia** DC., *Prodr.* 2: 117 (1825). **Type:** not designated. [Protologue: ‘in Novâ-Hollandiâ orient.’] Holotype: G-DC, image seen MEL, NSW.

**Bossiaeae lentulais** Lodd., G.Lodd. & W.Lodd., *Bot. Cab.* 13: 1238, pl. 1238 (1827), nom. illeg. **Type:** not designated. [Protologue: ‘A native of New Holland: we raised it in 1823 from seeds ...’]

**Erect shrubs** to c. 2 m high, with inflorescences typically borne on a regular series of short to medium-length side-brancllets; branchlets erecto-patent, moderately compressed, 0.5–1 mm wide, with recurved ridges generally not well-developed, not winged, ±glabrous; epicuticular wax generally not developed. **Stipules** asymmetrically triangular, with side nearest branch larger, 0.2–0.5 mm long, appressed, brown, glabrous, 1-nerved or venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 10–20°. **Leaves:** petiole 0.5–1 mm long, sulcate adaxially, densely hairy in the sulcus; articulation strongly geniculate, prominently ridged; lamina slightly oblate, circular, rhomboid, or occasionally broad-ovate, 4–12 mm long, 3–12 mm wide, with l:w ratio 0.9–1.4(–1.8), flat or gently concave, slightly or hardly discolorous; base symmetrical, rounded or broad-cuneate; margin flat, glabrous, smooth, with a pale rim; apex rounded, obtuse, acute or acuminate, sometimes slightly recurved; apiculum not developed; upper surface smooth, with venation sometimes slightly raised, with gland-dropping not evident, glabrous; lower surface glabrous. **Inflorescences:** axes contracted; bract 0.5–0.8 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 1–4 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, ovate, 0.8–1.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, loosely appressed or slightly divergent, inserted mostly in proximal third, especially near-basal, strongly convex, 1-nerved, or sometimes obscurely 2- or 3-nerved, glabrous, often pale at anthesis, becoming mid-brown. **Calyx** 2.7–5 mm long, glabrous, often glaucous, with tube much longer than lobes; upper lobes 0.6–1.5 mm long, 1.5–2.5 mm wide, sometimes expanded beyond lateral angle by up to c. 0.5 mm; lateral angle usually minutely acuminate; sinus 0.5–1 mm deep; lower lobes 0.5–1 mm long, 0.7–1 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat or slightly convex, with a medial ridge; standard to c. 12 mm long, slightly longer than keel (but slightly shorter prior to opening), adaxially yellow with red flare patches each side of throat, with throat bisected, abaxially partly flushed red; wings c. 1 mm shorter than keel, 2.5–3 mm wide, predominantly but sometimes patchily brownish-red; keel 3–4 mm wide, pinkish grading to dark red; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 4–6-ovulate; style 4–5 mm long. **Pods:** stipe 5–7 mm long; body oblong or oblong-elliptic, (10–)13–18 mm long, 8–11 mm wide, glabrous, glaucous; upper margin broadened by rounded lateral ridges; upper margin 2–3 mm wide, with sutural ridge to c. 1 mm high; valves with transverse venation slightly raised, with spongy tissue usually partitioning seeds internally. **Seeds** 3.5–4.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide; aril 1.5–2.2 mm long, 1–1.2 mm high, with base 1–1.2 mm long, with lobe curving c. 135° (Fig. 10a, g, h).

**Selected specimens from c. 150 examined:**

**QUEENSLAND:** Darlington Downs: c. 6 km NNE of Wallangarra, 1.8 km S of Mt Norman, M.D.Crisp 7325 & I.R.Telford, 28.ix.1984 (BRI, CANB, MEL, NSW); Dr Roberts Waterhole, Girraween National Park, N.G.Walsh 3884, 15.ix.1994 (MEL, NSW); Jollys Falls, near The Summit, M.E.Phillips, 20.ix.1966 (BRI).

**NEW SOUTH WALES:** Fortis Creek, 24 km N of Grafton on road to Coaldale, D.B.Forenan 902, 23.viii.1985 (MEL, NSW); Nelson Bay, 50 km NE of Newcastle, T.J.McDonald 1916, 21.vii.1976 (BRI); Warrimoo, lower Blue Mountains, K.A.McColl, 20.vii.1997 (CANB, NSW); Flagstone Creek Rd, 2 km off the Gulf Rd, P.I.Foster 17530, 25.viii.1995 (BRI, MEL, NSW); N side of Timor Rd, 14.4 km W of Coonabarabran, Warrumbungles National Park, P.C.Jobson 4851 & S.A.Mills, 3.ix.1997 (AD, CANB, MEL, NSW); 10 km W of Coonabarabran, H.Streimann 599, 6.xii.1973 (BRI, CANB); Donalds Creek, c. 1.8 km NE of Warrumbungles National Park, D.E.Albrecht 5336, 28.viii.1993 (MEL).

**Flowering period:** Flowers in late winter and spring.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in eastern New South Wales north from Moruya, and in the Stanthorpe district in far south-eastern Queensland (Fig. 11c). Grows in woodland and open forest.

**Notes:** **Bossiaeae rhombifolia** is mostly easily recognisable by the shape of its leaves, although occasionally their length:width ratio becomes as high as those of its closest relative **B. concolor**. The very short stipules of **B. rhombifolia** are also distinctive with only those of **B. heterophylla** being similar. The stipules are often asymetrically triangular with the more expanded half tending to cover the leaf-axil.


Erect shrubs to c. 3 m high, with inflorescences typically borne on a regular series of short to medium-length side-branchlets; branchlets sub-erect to erecto-patent, moderately compressed, 0.5–1 mm wide, with recurved ridges not well-defined, not winged, sometimes transiently moderately hairy, glabrescent; hairs often curled, c. 0.3 mm long; epicuticular wax generally not developed. *Stipules* narrow-triangular, 0.7–1.5 mm long, flat, erect or slightly divergent, mid-brown, glabrous, 1-nerved, stipule-petiole angle 45–90°. *Leaves*: petiole 0.5–1 mm long, sulcate and hairy adaxially; articulation not or only slightly geniculate, mostly slightly ridged; sometimes articulation obscure; lamina elliptic, obovate, 3–8 mm long, 2–5 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1.2–1.8, flat or more often gently concave or folded, nearly concolorous; base symmetrical, rounded or broad-cuneate; margin flat, glabrous, smooth, with a pale rim; apex rounded, subtruncate or slightly retuse, sometimes slightly recurved; apiculum absent; upper surface smooth, with venation mostly slightly raised, with gland-dotting sometimes faintly evident, glabrous; lower surface glabrous. *Inflorescences*: axes contracted; bract 0.6–1 mm long, 0.4–0.5 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 1–4 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, ovate or elliptic, 0.7–1 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, loosely appressed, inserted near base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, glabrous, red-brown. *Calyx* 2–4 mm long, glabrous, with tube longer than lobes; upper lobes 0.5–1.2 mm long, 1.2–1.8 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by up to 0.5 mm; lateral angle acuminate; sinus c. 0.5 mm deep; lower lobes 0.5–1.5 mm long, 0.5–1 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat or more often convex, often with a medial ridge; standard to c. 9 mm long, slightly longer than keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat bisected, abaxially generally all yellow except for flare; wings 1–2 mm shorter than keel, 1.5–2 mm wide, yellow; keel c. 3 mm wide, pale proximally abruptly becoming red in distal half to two-thirds; anthers c. 0.4 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 4–6-ovulate; style 1.5–4 mm long. *Pods*: stipe 3–5 mm long; body oblong to elliptic, 15–25 mm long, 6–9 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin; upper margin 1.5–2 mm wide, broadened by rounded lateral ridges, with or without sutural ridge to c. 1 mm high; valves with transverse venation slightly raised, with spongy tissue usually forming partitions internally. *Seeds* 3–3.5 mm long, 2–2.5 mm wide; aril 1.5–2 mm long, c. 1 mm high, with base c. 0.8 mm long, with lobe curving 100–150° (Fig. 10i).


**Flowering period:** Flowers in late winter and spring. **Distribution and habitat:** Occurs mostly inland from the Great Divide, in south-eastern Queensland south from Shoalwater Bay, and in north-eastern and central-eastern New South Wales as far south as Mudgee (Fig. 11d). Grows mostly in sandy soils in woodland and open forest.

**Notes:** *Bossiaea concolor* is similar to *B. rhombifolia* but can be distinguished from that species by the following: narrow-triangular stipules that form a large angle with the petiole (compare Figure 10h & 10i), smaller flowers and petals with different markings. In addition, leaflets and pods on average have a higher length to width ratio (leaflets c. 1.5 compared to c. 1.2; pods c. 3 compared to c. 1.8), the cavities formed by spongy tissues in the...
pods are shallower, and seeds are smaller. Branchlets in *B. concolor* are often slightly flexuose. The petiolule is short with the articulation often almost in contact with the lamina. The articulation also lacks the prominent ridge that is typical of *B. rhombifolia*.

*Bossiaea concolor* is similar to *B. nummularia* in leaf-shape and articulation and stipule morphology. Flowers of *B. concolor* are relatively small in the Mundubbera district of south-eastern Queensland, e.g., in A.R.Bean 27977 and 28063, both BRI.

### The Brownii subgroup


**Type**: [Protologue: ’on Balmy Creek.’ Balmy Creek is in central Queensland, SE of Emerald.] Queensland. Locality unknown (label states Sub-Tropical New Holland), T.L.Mitchell 275, 31.viii.1846; lectotype (here selected): K 000278379, image seen in Kew Herbarium Catalogue.

Residual syntypes: MEL 664781; MEL 665573; K 000278378, image seen in Kew Herbarium Catalogue.

**Erect shrubs** to c. 3 m high, with inflorescences borne variously on long branchlets or on a ±regular series of short to medium-length side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, terete, 0.8 mm wide, without decurrent ridges, moderately to very densely hairy; hairs mostly c. 0.3 mm long, straight or curly, sometimes also with short-lived spreading hairs to c. 1 mm long; epicuticular wax sometimes developed. **Stipules** narrow-triangular, 2–3(–6) mm long, generally erect but sometimes distorted, with membranous margins becoming revolute, red-brown, hairy medially, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 80–90°. **Leaves** alternate; petiole 0.5–1 mm long; articulation mostly slightly to moderately geniculate, sometimes knobly, sometimes obscure; lamina narrow-ovate to lanceolate, mostly 5–25 mm long, 2–13 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 2–4, flat, moderately discolorous; base asymmetrical, rounded to cordate; margin flat, glabrescent, smooth, with a pale rim; apex acute, subacute or occasionally rounded, minutely rounded at very tip; apiculum not developed; upper surface smooth, with venation often slightly raised, brochidodromous, with gland-dotting evident, soon glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. **Inflorescences**: axes contracted; bract 1–1.5 mm long, c. 1 mm wide, moderately convex; pedicel 3–7 mm long, glabrous or hairy; bracteoles persistent, oblong-ovate, 0.8–1.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, loosely appressed, inserted near base, often sub-opposite, deeply convex, with venation generally obscure, glabrous or hairy distally, red-brown. **Calyx** 5–9 mm long, glabrous or hairy, glaucous or glossy, with tube equal to or slightly longer than upper lobes; upper lobes 3–3.5 mm long, 3–4 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by 1–2 mm; lateral angle acute or minutely acuminate; sinus 0.5–1.5 mm deep; lower lobes 1.5–2.5 mm long, 1.2–1.5 mm wide at base, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 12 mm long, adaxially yellow, nature of flare unknown (area dries blackish in pressed specimens), abaxially sometimes flushed red; wings slightly longer than standard, 4–5 mm wide, yellow or red; keel 5–10 mm longer than standard, 4–7 mm wide, pale proximally, pink to red distally; anthers 0.8 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 6-ovulate; style c. 10 mm long. **Pods**: stipe 10–20 mm long; body mostly ±oblong, 25–40 mm long. 12–18 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin with a thick wing 2–3 mm high abruptly broadening at the summit to be 1.5–2 mm wide, summit flat or gently convex; valves with transverse venation slightly raised, with spongy internal partitions. **Seeds** c. 5 mm long, 2.5–3 mm wide; aril c. 2.5 mm long, c. 1.5 mm high, with base c. 1.5 mm long, with lobe curving c. 150° (Fig. 10k).

**Selected specimens from c. 100 examined**: QUEENSLAND: Coles Rd, Coominglah State Forest, W of Monto, A.R.Bean 8848, 17.viii.1995 (BRI, CANB, MEL); slopes of junction ridge, N of Marlong Arch, Mt Moffatt bp via Injune, A.R.Bean 14310, 27.x.1998 (BRI); Ka Ka Mundi section, Carnarvon National Park, SE of Mt Mooloolong, M.B.Thomas 3803, 28.viii.2008 (BRI, MEL, NSW); Bertunya Gorge, 4 km W of Warrang homestead, White Mountains National Park, Burke district, G.Anchen 182, 17.i.1995 (BRI, DNA, MEL); Side gorge off Rugged Gorge, c. 7 km upstream from junction with Flinders River, White Mountains, Burke district, M.B.Thomas 1631B, 28.viii.2008 (BRI, CANB, MEL), Lake Elphinstone, ridge at southern end, P.I.Forster 7290, 26.vii.1990 (BRI, CANB, MEL).

**Flowering period**: Flowers at most times of year, but mainly in late autumn, winter, and early spring.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in eastern Queensland between Bundaberg in the south and Townsville in the north (Fig. 11f). Grows on sandstone in woodland and open forest.
Notes: *Bossiaea carinalis* and *B. rupicola* are very similar and are not always easily distinguished. In most cases, however, specimens can be assigned comfortably to one or other species based on leaf length to width ratio and differences in the indumentum on various parts. The greater prominence of leaf venation in *B. carinalis* is also a fairly reliable character as is the greater smoothness of the adaxial surface. The calyx of *B. carinalis* is sometimes glabrous, in which case it is immediately distinguishable from *B. rupicola*; however, sometimes the calyx has an indumentum like that of *B. rupicola*. Fresh flowers have not been seen by the author. The description of petal colour varies considerably in *B. carinalis*, with perhaps the majority indicating that there is some yellow evident in standard and/or wings. In contrast, all specimen labels indicate that these petals are red in *B. rupicola*.

Pods of *B. carinalis* and *B. rupicola* exhibit two raised and broad longitudinal nerves on valves, one approximately 2 mm in from the upper margin and the other a similar distance in from the lower margin. These mark the internal limit of the fusion zones between valves; these zones are relatively broad in these species. These nerves are not evident or are poorly defined in other species.

Typification: From the type material I have seen, K 000278379 is the specimen showing the best example of the flowers, and it was undoubtedly seen by Bentham. I here select it as the lectotype of *B. carinalis*.


Type: [Protologue: ‘Queensland. Brisbane River; Fraser; Mount Lindsay at an elevation of 5700 ft., A. Cunningham’]


Shrubs or small trees to c. 4 m high, with inflorescences borne on long branchlets or on a ±regular series of short to medium length side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, terete, c. 0.8 mm wide, without decurrent ridges, moderately hairy; hairs 0.1–0.3 mm long, typically appressed; epicuticular wax not developed.

Stipules narrow-triangular, 2–3(–6) mm long, erect or variously recurved or distorted, with membranous margins becoming revolute, red-brown, hairy medially, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 80–90º. Leaves alternate; petiole 0.5–1 mm long; articulation mostly obscure, sometimes slightly geniculate, not ridged; lamina oblong-lanceolate, narrow-oblong or narrow-elliptic, 12–20 mm long, 3–6 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 4–8, flat, slightly discolorous; base asymmetrical, rounded to slightly cordate; margin flat, glabrescent, smooth, with a rim variably distinct, often greenish; apex acute, minutely rounded at very tip; apiculum absent; upper surface minutely granular, with venation obscure or slightly raised, brochidodromous, with gland-dotting generally obscure, early glabrescent; lower surface glabrescent. Inflorescences: axes contracted; bract 1–1.5 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide, moderately convex; pedicel 4–7 mm long, with appressed straight hairs; bracteoles persistent, ovate, 1–2 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, ±appressed, inserted near base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, hairy, often hairy all over, pale brown aging to red-brown. Calyx 5–7 mm long, hairy, with tube equal to or slightly longer than upper lobes; upper lobes 2.5–4 mm long, c. 3 mm wide, expanded beyond lateral angle by up to c. 0.5 mm; lateral angle acute; sinus 1–2 mm deep; lower lobes 2–3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, with lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 10 mm long, adaxially yellow, with presence of flare not known (flare zone slightly fleshy, drying brown), abaxially red; wings slightly longer than standard, 4–5 mm wide, red; keel 5–8 mm longer than standard, c. 6 mm wide, red grading to darker red; anthers c. 0.8 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 6–8-ovulate; style 8–12 mm long. Pods: stipe 10–20 mm long; body mostly ±oblong, 25–40 mm long, 12–18 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin with a thick wing 2–2.5 mm high, sometimes broadening near the summit, c. 1.5 mm wide; summit convex or with a broad ridge c. 0.5 mm high; valves with transverse venation slightly raised, with spongy partitions internally. Seeds c. 5 mm long, c. 3 mm wide; aril c. 2.2 mm long, c. 1.2 mm high, with base c. 1.2 mm long, with lobe curving 150º (Fig. 10b).

Selected specimens from c. 80 examined:


**Flowering period**: Flowers in winter.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs mostly in the McPherson Range in far south-eastern Queensland and far north-eastern New South Wales, but also much further north at Kroombit Tops National Park near Biloela and Mt Walsh near Biggenden (Fig. 11g). Grows often amongst rocks on rhyolite, in open forest, woodland and heathland.

**Notes**: *Bossiaea rupicola* is closely related to *B. carinalis* but in most cases can be distinguished from the latter by the higher length to width ratio of the leaflets. Further comparisons between the two species are made in the notes for *B. carinalis*.

**27. Bossiaea brownii** Benth., *Fl. Austral.* 2: 163 (1864)

Residual syntypes: Queensland. Port Clinton, *R.Brown*, 22.viii.1802; BM 000885941, BRI 424996, CANB 278252, CANB 371247, K 000278447, image seen in Kew Herbarium Catalogue Brown also collected at nearby Pine Port (Shoalwater Bay, and more specifically Akens Island) in 1802; however, Bentham did not cite this locality in the protologue.

**Erect shrubs** to c. 3 m high, with inflorescences typically borne on a ±regular series of short to medium-length side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent to almost spreading, terete, 0.5–0.8 mm wide, without decurrent ridges, moderately hairy with a mix of hair-types; hairs c. 0.3 mm long, curly and loosely appressed hairs and 1–2 mm long, straight, spreading; epicuticular wax not developed; internodes 1–3 mm long. **Stipules** narrow-triangular, 1–3 mm long, mostly distorted and oriented variously, with membranous margins becoming revolute, red-brown, hairy, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle c. 80–90º. **Leaves** alternate; petiole 0.5–0.8 mm long; articulation mostly slightly geniculate, not or hardly ridged, often obscured by hair; lamina ovate to narrow-ovate, mostly 3–12 mm long, 2–8 mm wide, with l:w ratio 1.3–1.8, flat, slightly discolorous; base asymmetrical, cordate or with one side sometimes truncate; margin flat, gradually glabrescent, ±smooth, with a pale rim; apex subacute to rounded; apiculum truncate; margin flat, gradually glabrescent, ±smooth, base asymmetrical, cordate or with one side sometimes

### Typification

A flowering specimen from a collection by Leichhardt and designated as K 000278446 is here selected as the lectotype of *B. brownii*. It was sent by F. Mueller to Bentham. Sheets bearing Robert Brown's collections at Port Clinton (Port Bowen) housed at BM (BM 000885941) and K (K 000278447) represent material probably also seen by Bentham; however, there is no specific indication of this.


Erect shrubs to c. 1 m high, with inflorescences borne typically on a ±regular series of short side-branches; branchlets erecto-patent to almost spreading, terete, 0.7–1 mm wide, without decurrent ridges, densely hairy; hairs to c. 0.8 mm long, straight or wavy; epicuticular wax not developed.

**Stipules** narrow-triangular, 1–2 mm long, flat, erect or recurving, with thinner margins generally not recurved, brown or red-brown, glabrous except near base, 1-nerved or with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 60–90º.

**Leaves** alternate; petiole 0.3–0.8 mm long; articulation slightly geniculate, ridged, often obscured by hair; lamina c. circular, mostly 3–6 mm long, 3–6 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly c. 1, ±flat or becoming concave distally, slightly discolorous; base c. symmetrical, rounded to truncate; margin flat, hairy, ±smooth, with a pale rim; apex rounded to truncate, or abruptly recurved and acuminate; apiculum to c. 0.1 mm long; upper surface smooth, with venation sometimes slightly raised, with gland dotting generally obscure, generally soon glabrescent; lower surface with somewhat persistent hairs, often moderately dense. **Inflorescences:** axes contracted; bract persistent, 1 mm long, 0.5–0.8 mm wide, slightly to moderately convex; pedicel 1.5–3 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, ovate, 1–1.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, loosely appressed or divergent, inserted near base of pedicel, moderately convex, 1-nerved or venation obscure, glabrous, orange-brown. **Calyx** 3–4 mm long, glabrous, sometimes slightly glaucous, with tube slightly longer than lobes; upper lobes 1.2–1.8 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide, not expanded beyond lateral angle; lateral angle acute or minutely acuminate; sinus c. 0.5 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.3 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide at base, with lateral lobes ±flat but with a distal ridge; standard to c. 10 mm long, slightly longer than keel (shorter prior to opening); adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat bisected, abaxially flushed red medially; wings c. 1 mm shorter than keel, 2.5–3 mm wide, flushed purple-brown throughout or mainly yellow apically; keel c. 3.5–4 mm wide, pink grading to dark red; anther c. 0.4 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 2-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. **Pods:** stipe 4–5 mm long; body c. elliptic, 10–12 mm long, 7–8 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin 1–1.3 mm wide, with ridge to c. 0.8 mm high; valves with transverse venation raised, without spongy tissue internally. **Seeds** 3–3.5 mm long, c. 2 mm wide; aril 1.5–2 mm long, c. 1.2 mm high, with base c. 1 mm long, with lobe curving c. 180º (Fig. 10l, m).

**Selected specimens from c. 20 examined:** NEW SOUTH WALES: 2.5 km S along Claypit Rd from Windellama to Nerriga Rd, R.Johnstone 2477 & A.E.Orme, 8.xii.2008 (MEL, NSW); Araluen Valley, Mr & Mrs Shoobridge, ix.1964 (CANB); corner of Oellen Ford & Jacqua Rds, I.R.Thompson 1333, 24.xi.2010 (MEL); Tonalli River Landing, towards Byrnes Creek, Warragamba, A.L.Mitchell 277, 17.xii.1964 (CANB, NSW).

**Flowering period:** Flowers mostly from late winter to spring.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in central-eastern and south-eastern New South Wales, between Warragamba in the north and Araluen Valley, NE of Moruya in the south (Fig. 11i). Rare, and listed as vulnerable under the Threatened Species Conservation Act of New South Wales. Grows in sand and loam, sometimes in shallow stony soils, in dry sclerophyll forest.

**Notes:** Bossiaea oligosperma is characterised by a moderately dense indumentum on branchlets and leaves, circular leaves, and short, few-ovulate pods. Unlike other members of the Brownii subgroup, B. oligosperma does not develop spongiose tissue inside pods. This is probably at least partly associated with the fact that pods are only 2-ovulate. It appears to be most closely related to B. brownii.

The Arenicola subgroup


**Type:** Queensland. Cook District, 4.3 km E of the Hopevale-Starke road on the track to the McIvor River mouth, J.R.Clarkson 5322, 14.vi.1984; holotype: MEL 665930; isotypes: MEL 1576791, NSW 787940. Also designated as being in BRI, CANB, DNA, K, PERTH, QRS but these n.v.
Shrubs or trees to c. 8 m high, with inflorescences typically borne on a regular series of side-branchlets; branchlets erecto-patent, terete, c. 0.6 mm wide, without decurrent ridges, moderately hairy, variably glabrescent; hairs to c. 0.5 mm long; epicuticular wax commonly developed. Stipules c. triangular, c. 1 mm long, erect, brown, with the broad margins recurving, wavy, glabrous, with venation obscure; stipule-petiole angle 30–60º. Leaves: petiole 1–2 mm long, not sulcate adaxially; articulation strongly geniculate, ridged; lamina circular, broad-elliptic, somewhat rhomboidal, ovate or broad-obovate, 8–15 mm long, 7–15 mm wide, with l:w ratio mostly 1–1.2, flat, moderately discolorous; base symmetrical, truncate, rounded or cuneate; margin flat, glabrous, smooth; apex broadly rounded; apiculum not developed; upper surface smooth, with venation sometimes raised, soon glabrescent; lower surface soon glabrescent. Inflorescences: axes contracted; bract 1–1.5 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 1–5 mm long, glabrous or occasionally hairy; bracteoles fused to form a single structure, persistent, 1–3 mm long, with l:w ratio mostly 2–3, sometimes with apex bilobed, divergent, commonly inserted ± at base of receptacle, sometimes c. mid-pedicel, convex, several-nerved, glabrous, greenish-yellow or light brown. Calyx 4–5 mm long, glabrous, with conspicuously raised parallel longitudinal venation, with tube longer than the lobes; upper lobes c. triangular, 1.5–2 mm long, 2 mm wide; lateral angle narrowly acute or acuminate; sinus 1–2 mm deep; lower lobes 1.3–2 mm long, 0.5–0.8 mm wide, with lateral lobes acuminate, flat; standard to c. 13 mm long, c. equal in length to keel, yellow; wings 1–2 mm shorter than keel, c. 2.5 mm wide, yellow; keel c. 4 mm wide, pale greenish-yellow; anthers c. 0.6 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary hairy, 2- or 3-ovulate; style 5–8 mm long. Pods: stipe 6–8 mm long; body oblong to elliptic, 20 mm long, 9–12 mm wide, with hairs 1–1.5 mm long on valves, c. 0.5–1 mm long on sutures, usually caducous well before maturity; upper margin c. 2 mm wide, gently convex but hardly ridged; valves with transverse venation markedly raised, usually with numerous bands of papery tissue internally. Seeds 4 mm long, 3 mm wide, brown; aril c. 1 mm long, c. 1 mm high, with base c. 1 mm long, with lobe curving 90–130º (Fig. 10d, n, o).


Flowering period: Flowers from April to June.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in far north Queensland from the tip of Cape York Peninsula south to Cooktown (Fig. 11e). Grows in sand dunes in closed heath and shrublands.

Notes: Bossiaea arenicola is readily identified by its unique calyx and bracteole morphology. It is similar to the Brownii subgroup in having stipules with membranous margins. The pattern of new growth is similar to that of Group A in which there are numerous new nodes with fully-developed stipules but underdeveloped leaves crowded along an axis.

Group F

Leafless shrubs, often extensively rhizomatous; cladodes slightly to moderately compressed centrally, winged, mostly broadly so, mostly ± glabrous, with epicuticular wax sometimes lifting in flakes. Scales replacing stipules at all nodes. Inflorescences: axes often with scales 4 or more; multiple inflorescences sometimes arising from an axil; pedicel mostly short; bracts and bracteoles markedly convex, sometimes large, sometimes caducous; bracteoles mostly inserted proximally. Calyx glabrous, with upper lobes not or only slightly expanded beyond lateral angle, sometimes triangular (Fig. 12).

Group F contains the 12 leafless species in eastern Australia, and is divided here into four subgroups. It is the most widespread of the groups, with the bulk of the species occurring between far north Queensland and Victoria. Extensions to this range are provided by B. riparia which occurs in Tasmania, B. peninsularis which occurs on the Eyre Peninsula in south-central South Australia, and B. walkeri which extends across South Australia and into Western Australia.

The Ensata subgroup (species 30–34) contains five species with generally persistent bracts and bracteoles, mostly only one pair of inflorescence scales, and generally only one inflorescence per axil.

The other three subgroups differ from the Ensata subgroup by having multiple pairs of inflorescence scales, caducous bracts and bracteoles, and often...
developing 2 or 3 inflorescences per axil. Out of the three subgroups, the Fragrans subgroup (species 35 & 36) is probably closest to the Ensata subgroup.

The Bracteosa subgroup (species 37–40) is distinct in having large bracts, bracteoles and distal inflorescence scales, triangular upper calyx-lobes, and calyx-lobes that are brown and chartaceous. Prior to some very recent publications, Ross (2008) and McDougall (2009), specimens from this subgroup and the Fragrans subgroup had been referred to *B. bracteosa*.

*Bossiaea walkerii* (41) forms a subgroup of its own and is distinguished from other leafless species by its striate bracts and bracteoles, large flowers with an elongate keel, and pods that are long, many-ovulate and with hairs on margins.

### The Ensata subgroup


**Type**: [Protologue; ‘Sieb! pl. exs. nov.-holl. n. 434’... in Novâ hollandiâ’] New South Wales. Location unknown [between Port Jackson and Blue Mountains], *F.Sieber* 434, date unknown; holotype: G-DC, image seen MEL, photo NSW, *fide* Lee (1970); isotypes: MEL 651294, MEL 651295, MEL 651296.

Sprawling to erect rhizomatous leafless shrubs to c. 1 m high, with cladodes to c. 20 mm wide, with inflorescences borne on both long and shorter branchlets, sometimes on a regular series of side-branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes erect to erecto-patent, 1–5 mm wide,
Key to Group F

1. Bracteoles generally falling before anthesis.................................................................2
   1: Bracteoles generally persistent..................................................................................8

2. Flowers > 15 mm long, with keel clearly longer than standard; pods 50–60 mm long
   (arid regions)................................................................................................................41. B. walkeri
2: Flowers < 15 mm long, with keel shorter than or c. equal to standard; pods 20–40 mm long
   (not arid regions)...........................................................................................................3

3. Upper calyx-lobes somewhat quadrate, calyx-lobes not chartaceous; longest inflorescence-scale to
   c. 1 mm long; bracts and bracteoles < 2 mm long.........................................................4
3: Upper calyx-lobes triangular (resembling lower lobes); calyx-lobes distally brown and chartaceous;
   longest inflorescence-scale > 1 mm long; bracts and bracteoles > 2 mm long..............5

4. Cladodes greyish at flowering due to epicuticular wax; pedicels 1–2.5 mm long, with bracteole
   abscission scars concealed by scales .............................................................................35. B. fragrans
4: Cladodes green at flowering; pedicels 2–4 mm long; bracteole abscission scars generally visible
   (c. at level of scale apices or slightly more distal)........................................................36. B. milesiae

5. Largest scales of cladodes > 1 mm wide from midrib to margin, with conspicuous branching venation;
   cladodes with recess at nodes up to 5 mm deep ..........................................................40. B. bracteosa
5: Scales of cladodes < 1 mm wide from midrib to margin, with venation obscure; cladodes with recess at
   nodes absent or < 1 mm deep .......................................................................................6

6. Longest cladode-scales ≥ 2 mm long; cladodes green; plants generally infertile (Victoria only) ..........39. B. vombata
6: Longest cladode-scales mostly < 2 mm long; cladodes greyish-green or if green then all cladodes
   < 5 mm wide; seeds commonly set ............................................................................7

7. Cladodes green; pods < 6 mm wide ............................................................................37. B. bombayensis
7: Cladodes grey-green; pods > 6 mm wide......................................................................38. B. grayi

8. Petals without red markings except for a small flare on standard (northern Queensland) ..........33. B. armitii
8: Petals more extensively marked than above (southern Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria) ....9

9. Bracteoles inserted on distal third of pedicel; cladodes with longest scales 2–2.5 mm long,
   with tuft of hairs in axils (Eyre Peninsula, South Australia) .........................................32. B. peninsularis
9: Bracteoles inserted proximal to mid-pedicel or occasionally on middle-third; cladodes with longest
   scales 1–1.5(–2) mm long, glabrous or nearly so in axils (far eastern Australia) .............10

10. Keel dark red, glabrous; pods < 25 mm long, ≤ 7 mm wide, with upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide;
    seeds 1.5–2 mm long; new growth with scattered hairs on faces; inflorescence scales commonly
    4 or more ....................................................................................................................34. B. riparia
10: Keel pale (or sometimes with a pink tinge), with some apical hairs; pods > 25 mm long,
    7–12 mm wide, with upper margin 1–2 mm wide; seeds 3–4 mm long; new growth glabrous or
    with hairs ±restricted to margins; inflorescence scales 2 ...........................................11

11. Upper calyx-lobes < 2.5 mm wide; wings largely yellow (sometimes tinged red); bracteoles mostly
    < 1.5 mm long; upper margin of pod 1–1.2 mm wide, with ridge angular....................30. B. ensata
11: Upper calyx-lobes > 2.5 mm wide; wings purplish-brown; bracteoles mostly > 1.5 mm long;
    upper margin of pod 1.5–2 mm wide, ±rounded .....................................................31. B. scolopendria
not recessed at nodes and sometimes slightly widening, ± glabrous; marginal ridges well-defined, smooth or with occasional tubercles; new growth ± linear in profile, glabrous or sparsely hairy on margins; epicuticular wax sometimes weakly developing, shed in smallish flakes, with cladodes green at flowering. Scales 0.6–1.5 mm long, 0.3–0.5 mm wide from midrib to margin, greenish apart from midrib and margins, sometimes few-nerved apart from midrib, glabrous or with a few hairs along midrib, with margin glabrous. Leaves occasionally developed and persisting towards base of stems; lamina nearly circular, to 12 mm long. Inflorescences: axes contracted; scales 2, 0.6–1 mm long; bract persistent, 1–1.5 (–2) mm long, 0.3–0.6 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 2–6 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, ovate to narrow-ovate or narrow-oblong, 0.8–1.5 (–2) mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–3, appressed, inserted in proximal half, strongly convex, few-nerved, with venation often obscure, glabrous, commonly slightly fleshy, dark-brown. Calyx 3–4.5 mm long, glabrous, often with dark stripes, with tube longer than lobes; upper lobes sometimes broadening slightly from base, 1.5–2.2 mm long, 1.5–2.4 mm wide; lateral angle acute or acuminate; sinus 0.5–1.4 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.8 mm long, 0.7–1 mm wide; lateral lobes flat or convex; standard to c. 11 mm long, a few mm longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially largely reddish, with pale radiating bands in medial third; wings c. as long as keel, 2–2.5 mm wide, yellow, sometimes also tinged red; keel c. 2.5 mm wide, pale greenish-yellow, sometimes tinged pink apically, often with hairs at distal end of fusion zone; anthers c. 0.3 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 6–8-ovulate; style with hairs at distal end of fusion zone; anthers c. 0.3 mm long, sometimes also tinged red; keel c. 2.5 mm wide, pale greenish-yellow, with occasional tubercles; new growth ± linear in profile, ± glabrous; marginal ridges well-defined, smooth or with occasional tubercles; new growth ± linear in profile, glabrous or sparsely hairy on margins; epicuticular wax sometimes weakly developing, shed in smallish flakes, with cladodes green at flowering. Scales 0.6–1.5 mm long, 0.3–0.5 mm wide from midrib to margin, greenish apart from midrib and margins, sometimes few-nerved apart from midrib, glabrous or with a few hairs along midrib, with margin glabrous. Leaves occasionally developed and persisting towards base of stems; lamina nearly circular, to 12 mm long. Inflorescences: axes contracted; scales 2, 0.6–1 mm long; bract persistent, 1–1.5 (–2) mm long, 0.3–0.6 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 2–6 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, ovate to narrow-ovate or narrow-oblong, 0.8–1.5 (–2) mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–3, appressed, inserted in proximal half, strongly convex, few-nerved, with venation often obscure, glabrous, commonly slightly fleshy, dark-brown. Calyx 3–4.5 mm long, glabrous, often with dark stripes, with tube longer than lobes; upper lobes sometimes broadening slightly from base, 1.5–2.2 mm long, 1.5–2.4 mm wide; lateral angle acute or acuminate; sinus 0.5–1.4 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.8 mm long, 0.7–1 mm wide; lateral lobes flat or convex; standard to c. 11 mm long, a few mm longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially largely reddish, with pale radiating bands in medial third; wings c. as long as keel, 2–2.5 mm wide, yellow, sometimes also tinged red; keel c. 2.5 mm wide, pale greenish-yellow, sometimes tinged pink apically, often with hairs at distal end of fusion zone; anthers c. 0.3 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 6–8-ovulate; style 2.5–3 mm long. Pods: stipe 3–5 mm long; body narrowly-oblong, 30–40 mm long, 7–11 mm wide; upper margin c. 1 mm wide, with ridge 0.3–0.6 (–1) mm high; valves with transverse venation hardly raised. Seeds 3–3.5 mm long, 2–2.5 mm wide; aril 1.5–1.8 mm long, c. 1 mm high, with base 0.8–1 mm long, with lobe curving 90–180°.

Selected specimens from c. 150 examined: QUEENSLAND: Between Lake Benaroon and Lake Boemingan, Fraser Island, D.A. Smith, 15.viii.1971 (BRI); Noosa, C.T. White, 21.viii.1949 (BRI); Little Canalpin Swamp, North Stradbroke Island, K.M. Stephens 07030713, 7.iii.2007 (BRI, NSW). NEW SOUTH WALES: c. 1.5 km N of Lake Cathie, near Port Macquarie, D. Verdon 157, 17.viii.1969 (CANB); Anzac Pde, Matraville, R. Covery 11290, 15.ix.1982 (MEL, NSW); Jervis Bay, Canberra Botanic Gardens annexe, near Lake McKenzie, C. Tyrrell 168, 6.x.1978 (CANB); track to Green Cape, M.E. Phillips 83, 8.x.1961 (CANB); Tarougra Forest Rd, 2 km E of Bodalla along Potato Point Rd, E. Mullins 708, 6.x.1986 (CANB, MEL, NSW). VICTORIA: entry to tip on Betka Rd, Mallacoota, S. J. Forbes 2884, 14.x.1985 (CANB, MEL); Marlo Racecourse Reserve, c. 12 km SE of Orbost, W. Hunter 22, 19.x.1951 (MEL); c. 0.5 km N of the mouth of Seal Creek, D. E. Albrecht 4844, 22.x.1991 (CANB, MEL, HO).

Flowering period: Flowers in spring.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in near-coastal areas of south-eastern Queensland, New South Wales and far eastern Victoria (Fig. 13a). Categorised as rare in Victoria (Walsh & Stajsic 2007). Grows in sandy soils in heathland and open forest.

Notes: The bracts and bracteoles of B. ensata and B. scolopendria usually appear less scarious than those of most other species, and are sometimes slightly fleshy medially (drying blackish). Bossiaea ensata is closest to B. scolopendria but compared to that species has smaller and generally fewer flowers, shorter bracteoles, wing-petals that are largely yellow, and pods that are thinner and with the upper margin more angular. The calyx morphology of B. ensata and B. scolopendria is similar to that of species in Group E. A mutant with pure yellow flowers has been recorded from Mororo in northern New South Wales (Fensham 4923 BRI).

Hybridisation: A probable hybrid between B. prostrata and B. ensata has been recorded from near Bermagui (N. Schultz 132 CANB). It is leafy throughout and has winged branchlets approaching the width of those of B. ensata.


Erect rhizomatous leafless shrubs to c. 1 m high, with cladodes to c. 25 mm wide, with inflorescences borne predominantly on long branchlets, occasionally on a regular series of short side-branchlets; inflorescence-
bearing cladodes mostly sub-erect, mostly 3–12 mm wide, with no recession and sometimes a slight widening below nodes, glabrous or sparsely hairy on margins; marginal ridges ± smooth; new growth linear in profile; epicuticular wax not developing, with cladodes green at flowering. Scales 1–2 mm long, 0.4–0.6 mm wide from midrib to margin, greenish between pale midrib and pale margin, sometimes few-nerved apart from midrib, with margin glabrous. Leaves occasionally developed and persistent towards base of stems; lamina elliptic, to c. 25 mm long. Inflorescences: axes contracted; scales 2, 0.5–1 mm long; bract persistent, 1.5–2.5 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 2–3 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, narrow-ovate, narrow-elliptic or narrow-oblong, 1.5–2.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–3, appressed, inserted in proximal half, strongly convex, usually obscurely nerved apart from ridged midline, glabrous, slightly fleshy, brown to dark brown. Calyx 4–7 mm long, glabrous, often with dark stripes, with tube equal to or slightly longer than lobes; upper lobes broadening slightly from base, 2–3 mm long, 2.6–3.5 mm wide, sometimes slightly expanded beyond lateral angle; lateral angle acute or acuminate; sinus 0.5–1 mm deep; lower lobes 1.5–2.5 mm long, 1–1.3 mm wide; lateral lobes ± flat; standard to c. 15 mm long. Petals 3–4 mm long, purplish-brown throughout except for pale radiating bands medially extending partway to margins; wings 3–4 mm wide, purplish-brown throughout or at least in distal half; keel 3–4 mm wide, pale greenish-yellow, with hairs at distal end of fusion zone; anthers c. 0.3 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 10-ovulate; style 3–3.5 mm long. Pods: stipe 1–4 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 30–45 mm long, 10–12 mm wide; upper margin 1.5–2 mm wide, with a low rounded ridge; valves with transverse venation not or hardly raised. Seeds 3–4 mm long, 2–3 mm wide; aril 1–1.8 mm long, 1–1.5 mm high, with base 1–1.8 mm long, with lobe curving c. 90º (Fig. 12b).

**Flowering period**: Flowers in spring.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in near-coastal areas of central and southern New South Wales (Fig. 13b). Grows predominantly on sandstone, in heathland and forest.

**Notes**: Bossiaea scolopendria is similar to B. ensata q.v. and there is some overlap in their distributions. These two species differ from the other two species in the Ensata subgroup by having bracteoles inserted more proximally on the pedicel. Bossiaea scolopendria typically develops very long straight cladodes bearing numerous, often 10–30, flowers. The cladode margin of B. scolopendria often has a distinct cellular pattern which is discernible under moderate magnification. The midline of cladode scales of B. scolopendria and B. ensata is more or less a continuation of the marginal ridge of cladodes, and is thus more prominent than in other leafless species. The scales of B. scolopendria and B. ensata are reminiscent of the stipules of B. rhombifolia and B. heterophylla.

**Typification**: The holotype illustration shows a good general likeness to B. scolopendria but cannot be considered diagnostic. Furthermore, it is strange that the ovary is drawn with hairs on margins as neither B. scolopendria nor any other similar species such as B. ensata have been seen to develop hairs on the ovary. An epitype, C.Burgess, 29.vii.1963, CANB 0006531, to the holotype illustration of B. scolopendria is therefore selected here to aid the application of the name.

32. **Bossiaea peninsularis** I.Thomps., sp. nov.

A B. ensata DC. squamis longioribus, indumento axillaris densioribus, bracteolis pedicello in medio insertis differt.

**Type**: South Australia. 10 km E of Karkoo on the south side of Mount Isabella Rd, P.Tucker s.n., 11.x.2000; holotype: AD 110381.

**Notes**: and B. ensata have been seen to develop hairs on the ovary. An epitype, C.Burgess, 29.vii.1963, CANB 0006531, to the holotype illustration of B. scolopendria is therefore selected here to aid the application of the name.

**Selected specimens from c. 150 examined**: NEW SOUTH WALES: Greenmans Valley Rd, W of Mt White, R.Coveny 11221, 10.viii.1983 (CANB, NSW); Muogamarra Nature Reserve, c. 3 km S of the Hawkesbury River, B.J.Lepschi 3971, 6.xii.1998 (CANB); 21 km from Tomerong on Turpentine Rd, N side of the road, F.W.Howe 69, 12.ix.1983 (CANB, MEL, NSW); Ku-Ring-Gai Chase, c. 25 km N of Sydney, T.R.N.Lothian, 24.viii.1952 (AD); Maroota Forest, W of Old Northern Rd, 2 km S of Forest Glen, R.G.Coveny 15495, 22.viii.1991 (AD, CANB, HO, MEL, PERTH).
growth often very narrow-elliptic in profile, moderately hairy along margins; epicuticular wax developing, with crusts sometimes lifting in small patches, with cladodes grey-green at flowering. Scales 2–2.5 mm long, 0.3–0.5 mm wide from midrib to margin, brown, 3–5-nerved, glabrous, with margin hairy or glabrous. Inflorescences: axes contracted or to c. 2 mm long; scales 2, bract-like, 1–1.5 mm long, acute; bract persistent, 2–2.5 mm long, 0.5–1 mm wide, moderately convex; pedicel 3–4 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles persistent, narrow-ovate, 2–2.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 2–2.5, appressed or divergent, inserted mostly in distal third, strongly convex, several-nerved, glabrous, red-brown. Calyx 3.5–4 mm long, glabrous, with tube longer than lobes; upper lobes 1.5–1.8 mm long, c. 1.8 mm wide; lateral angle acute or minutely acuminate; sinus 0.5–1 mm deep; lower lobes 1.5 mm long, 1–1.2 mm wide; lateral lobes flat; standard to c. 10 mm long, c. 1 mm longer than wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially reddish to purplish with pale radiating bands in medial third; wings slightly longer than keel, c. 2 mm wide, pale proximally, purplish distally; keel c. 2.5 mm wide, pale proximally, red distally, often with a few hairs at distal end of fusion zone; anthers c. 0.4 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 6-ovulate; style 4–5 mm long. Mature pods: stipe c. 2 mm long, abruptly upcurved at base, with stigma elevated well above anthers, conspicuously hairy. Mature pods and seeds not seen; immature pods: stipe c. 2 mm long, body elliptic or oblong, c. 15 mm long (Fig. 12c).

Selected specimens from c. 10 examined: SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Hundred of Brooker, c. 70 km N of Port Lincoln, C.R.Alcock 737, 28.x.1965 (AD, MEL, NSW); 33°57' S, 135°27' E, Eyre Peninsula, S.Wright 4, 26.viii.1981 (AD).

Flowering period: Flowers from August to October.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs on the Eyre Peninsula in south-central South Australia (Fig. 13d). Rare, and likely to warrant recognition as a threatened species. Grows in mallee woodland.

Notes: Bossiaea peninsularis is perhaps closest to B. ensata, in which specimens were formerly included, and B. scolopendria, but differs from both of these by having distally inserted, more striate and less fleshy bracts and bracteoles, slightly longer cladode-scales with the base more sharply delineated, and the adjacent cladode margin moderately hairy. One collection (P.Tucker s.n. AD) has a high proportion of 2-flowered inflorescences.
Selected specimens from c. 80 examined:

**NORTHERN TERRITORY:** Robinson River, L.Brass, vii.1925 (BRI).

**QUEENSLAND:** Jowalbinna, c. 32 km SW of Laura, Garden Creek, W.Hinton 92, ii.1978 (BRI); E of Baal Gammon mine, c. 1 km by road N of Herberton, to Irvinebank Rd, c. 7 km W of Herberton, B.J.Conn & J. de Campo 1294, i.vi.1983 (BRI, CANB, MEL, NSW); 44 km from Walsh River crossing on the Mungana-Wrotham Park Rd, J.R.Clarkson 2806, 7.ii.1980 (DNA, NSW, PERTH); Mount Bullimig, c. 40 km NW of Dimbulah, J.R.Clarkson 5796, 15.iv.1985 (BRI, MEL, PERTH); 26.4 km by road towards Forsayth from Einasleigh, Newcastle Range, K.R.McDonald 3803, 6.iii.2005 (BRI, MEL); 34 km E of Forsayth towards Einasleigh, R.J.Cumming 23617 (BRI, DNA, MEL); SW of “Silver Plains” channel of Dinner Creek, A.Kanis 2025, 19.viii.1978 (BRI).

**Flowering period:** Flowers summer to autumn.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in far north Queensland from the Iron Range south to Mount Bohle near Charters Towers, and in the far east of the Northern Territory where there is a single record from Robinson River (Fig. 13c). Grows in woodland and shrubland, often riparian and/or amongst rocks.

**Notes:** *Bossiaea armitii* is fairly uniform in floral and fruit morphology but with some variation in cladode shape and width. In some specimens cladodes are distinctly elliptic and then often relatively broad, whereas in others they are more linear as is typical of cladodes of most species of *Bossiaea*. Differs from other species in the Ensata subgroup by having longer flowers, petals almost devoid of red markings, and wing petals markedly shorter than the keel. It has shorter bracteoles than *B. scolopendria* and *B. peninsularis* and they are inserted mostly in the middle third of the pedicel rather than proximal or distal thirds.

**Typification:** I here select MEL 651099 as the lectotype of *B. armitii*. It is preferred over the other type material as it bears a pod as well as a flower.

**34. Bossiaea riparia A.Cunn. ex Benth., Fl. Austral. 2: 166 (1864)**


**Semi-prostrate to erect leafless shrubs** to c. 1 m high, with cladodes to c. 5 mm wide, with inflorescences borne predominantly on side-branchlets, sometimes on a regular series of short side-branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes sub-erect to erecto-patent, mostly 1–4 mm wide, with recession at nodes up to 0.4 mm deep, occasionally with a sparse indumentum; marginal ridges generally poorly defined, smooth or minutely uneven; new growth linear in profile, with evenly scattered straight hairs c.0.3 mm long; epicuticular wax sometimes developing, with crusts often lifting in flakes or sheets, with cladodes green or grey-green or grey at flowering. **Scales** 0.7–1.5 mm long, 0.3–0.5 mm wide from midrib to margin, coppery-brown, 1–3-nerved. **Inflorescences:** axes contracted; scales 4–8, with cluster 0.5–1.5 mm long; bract persistent until after anthesis, 0.8–1.2 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 1.5–5 mm long.

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**Figure 13.** Distributions of species in the Ensata subgroup of Group F. a. *Bossiaea ensata*; b. *B. scolopendria*; c. *B. armitii*; d. *B. peninsularis*; e. *B. riparia*.
glabrous or hairy proximally; bracteoles persistent until after anthesis, then variably caducous, ovate, elliptic or obovate, 0.8–2 mm long, with l:w ratio 1–3, basally appressed but commonly then divergent, inserted mostly in middle third, strongly convex, 3–5-nerved or with venation obscure, glabrous, red-brown. *Calyx* 2.5–4 mm long, glabrous or with scattered appressed hairs on lobes, with tube much longer than lobes; upper lobes 0.8–1.3 mm long, 1–1.5 mm wide; lateral angle acute; sinus c. 0.5 mm deep; lower lobes 0.5–1.2 mm long, 0.6–1 mm wide; lateral lobes flat except for a distal medial ridge; standard to c. 12 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, with throat bisected, abaxially reddish throughout or reddish medially grading to yellow laterally; wings 2–2.5 mm wide, yellow throughout or brownish-red throughout; keel c. 3 mm wide, red throughout; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 4–6-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. *Pods*: stipe 2–4 mm long; body narrow-oblong or narrow-ovobovate, 12–24 mm long, 4–7 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, flat or with fine sutural ridge to c. 0.3 mm high. *Seeds*: stipe 2–4 mm long; body narrow-oblong or narrow-ovobovate, 12–24 mm long, 4–7 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, flat or with fine sutural ridge to c. 0.3 mm high. *Calyx*: 1.5–3 mm long, 1–1.8 mm wide; aril 0.7–1 mm long, 0.5–1.2 mm high, with base 0.7–1 mm long, with lobe curving 45–90º (Fig. 12d).

**Selected specimens from c. 100 examined:**

**NEW SOUTH WALES:** S side of Cave Creek, 1.5 km downstream of Blue Waterholes, Kosciusko National Park, N.G. *Walsh 4880*, 9.xii.1998 (MEL); Snowy Mountains Hwy, c. 10 km E of Adaminaby, A.Duncan s.n., 3.xi.1994 (MEL, NSW); ‘Mirrunga’, W bank of Murrumbidgee River, 6.5 km S of A.C.T. border, I.Crawford 3175, 13.x.1995 (CANB, NSW); Near Cooma, E.Gauba, 7.vii.1951 (AD, CANB). A.C.T.: Pond Creek, Upper Cotter Valley, P.Gilmour 6263, 17.xii.1987 (CANB, NSW).

**VICTORIA:** Wannon River at 4 posts bridge, c. 22 km W of Hamilton, M.G.Corrick s.n., 1965 (MEL); Big River, W bank, c. 300 m downstream from Fryers Creek confluence, c. 7.5 km direct SW from Jamieson, N.G. *Walsh 5771*, 5.xii.2003 (CANB, MEL, NSW); Tipperary Track, E side of Sailors Creek, SW of Hepburn, J.H.Ross 3978, 11.i.1997 (CANB, MEL); Mitta Mitta River, 3 km S by road from Mitta Mitta township, N.G. *Walsh 6120*, 14.x.2004 (MEL, NSW). **TASMANIA:** East Risdon Nature Reserve, A.Moscal 16582, 9.x.1988 (HO, CANB); Lake Augusta Rd, junction with old quarry track, R.Burns 147, 29.f.1990 (CANB); S side of Mersey River near Alum cliffs, A.M.Buchanan 7553, 28.xi.1985 (HO); Lake Sorell, A.M.Buchanan 12661, 30.xi.1992 (HO); Pumphouse Point Rd, Lake St Clair, R.A.Burns, 6.ii.2003 (HO).

**Flowering period:** Flowers from August to December.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in far south-eastern New South Wales, southern and eastern Victoria and Tasmania (Fig. 13e). Categorised as rare in Victoria (Walsh & Stajsic 2007). Grows in open forest and woodland at low altitudes or up to c. 1000 m a.s.l.

**Notes:** *Bossiaea riparia* is a variable species, with variation in habit, width of cladodes, epicuticular wax development, and petal markings. A form widespread in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales differs reasonably consistently from other populations in being more prostrate, having greyer, narrower cladodes, and in having brownish rather than yellow wings. In Tasmania, there is marked variation depending on location, with some populations looking similar to the Victorian form and others resembling the New South Wales Southern Tablelands form. Much of the variation is thought to be due to environmental factors.

Bracteoles of *B. riparia* are quite variable in shape; however, a fairly consistent and distinctive feature is the rather abrupt widening from a narrow basal portion which has glabrous margins. Beyond this zone of widening, the margins have the usual ciliate appearance. *Bossiaea riparia* also differs from other species in the Ensata subgroup in having scattered hairs on the faces of developing cladodes and 2 or more pairs of inflorescence scales below a flower. In the other species, hairs are mostly restricted to margins and there is a single pair of scales. *B. bombayensis*, while differing in several important respects, shows some affinity to *B. riparia* in having slender cladodes, narrow pods with a slender wing/ridge, and hairs on faces rather than margins of new growth. *B. bombayensis* shows some affinity to *B. riparia* in having narrow pods with a slender wing/ridge, and hairs on faces rather than margins of new growth. It is also similar in cladode width.

**Typification:** Lee lectotypified a specimen based on loosely attached fragments with diagnostic reproductive material, and she gave details of the label for the lectotype as ‘Stony banks of rivulets winding through the downs of Minera, 5 miles SW. from Lake George ‘Bossiaea riparia’ C.v.mss.’ This specimen surprisingly is not located in the on-line Kew Herbarium Catalogue, and there may be some mistake. The collection details given above are based on details presented on the label of the isolecotype.
The Fragrans subgroup


Erect rhizomatous leafless shrubs to c. 2.5 m high, with cladodes to c. 20 mm wide, with inflorescences borne on both long and short branchlets, but not generally on a regular series of short side-branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes erecto-patent, mostly 5–10 mm wide, with recession at nodes 0.5–1 mm deep, glabrous; marginal ridges well-defined, minutely uneven or tuberculate; new growth somewhat elliptic in profile, sparsely hairy on margins; epicuticular wax developing, lifting in small flakes, with cladodes typically greyish at flowering. Scales 1–2.5 mm long, 0.3–0.7 mm wide from midrib to margin, coppery-brown, obscurely few-nerved. Inflorescences: axes contracted; scales 4 or 6, with largest c. 1 mm long, 0.7–1 mm wide, with scale-cluster 1–1.5 mm long; bract caducous or persistent, 1–1.3 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, moderately convex; pedicel 1–2.5 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles caducous before or after anthesis, oblong-elliptic, 1–1.3 mm long, with l:w ratio c. 2, divergent, inserted near base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, glabrous, orange-brown. Calyx 3–4.5 mm long, glabrous, with tube much longer than lobes; upper lobes 0.8–1 mm long, 1.2–1.6 mm wide, not or hardly expanded beyond lateral angle; lateral angle acute; sinus 0.5–0.8 mm deep; lower lobes 0.7–1 mm long, not or hardly chartaceous distally; lateral lobes 0.8 mm wide, ±flat but with a medial ridge; median lobe similar to laterals; standard to c. 12 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with red marks at sides of throat, abaxially yellow, sometimes with a red medial stripe; wings 2.5–3 mm wide, yellow; keel c. 3 mm wide, ±red throughout; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 5- or 6-ovulate; style 2.5–4 mm long. Pods: (based on McDougall 2010) stipe 2.5–3.5 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 24–38 mm long, 8–10 mm wide, glabrous. Seeds c. 3 mm long, c. 2 mm wide; aril not seen mature.


Flowering period: Flowers from September to October.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in the vicinity of Abercrombie Karst Conservation Area, south of Bathurst in central-eastern New South Wales (Fig. 14a). Rare, and listed as a critically endangered species under the Threatened Species Conservation Act of New South Wales. Grows on slate and volcanic substrates in White Box woodland.

Notes: *Bossiaea fragrans* is similar to *B. milesiae* q.v. The vexillary stamen of *B. fragrans* is free at flowering, based on the few samples examined. This feature has not been recorded in other species of eastern Australian *Bossiaea*.


**Type**: New South Wales. South Coast, Brogo River, c. 25 km NNW of Bega (c. 1 km downstream from Brogo Dam), *K.L.McDougall* 1193, *J.Miles & P.Jeuch*, 12.ix.2006; holotype: NSW 785654; isotype: CANB, MEL 2318264.

Erect rhizomatous leafless shrubs to c. 2 m high, with cladodes to c. 10 mm wide, with inflorescences borne mostly on short side-branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes sub-erect to erecto-patent, mostly 4–8 mm wide, with recession at nodes 0.5–0.8 mm deep, glabrous or sometimes with hairs on margins somewhat persistent, especially in scale-axils; marginal ridges well-defined, minutely uneven; new growth slightly elliptic in profile, sparsely hairy on margins; epicuticular wax not developing, with cladodes green at flowering. Scales 1.5–2 mm long, c. 0.5 mm width from midrib to margin, red-brown, obscurely few-nerved. Inflorescences: axes contracted; occasionally 2 or 3 inflorescences arising from a single axil; scales 4–8, with largest c. 1 mm long, 0.7–1 mm wide; scale-cluster 1.5–2.2 mm long; bract caducous or persistent until anthesis, 1.3–1.5 mm long, c. 0.8 mm wide, moderately convex; pedicel 2–4 mm long, glabrous, becoming stout in fruit; bracteoles caducous, often before anthesis, oblong-elliptic, 1.5–2 mm long, with l:w ratio c. 2, loosely appressed, inserted
0.5–1 mm from base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, glabrous, orange-brown. Calyx 3.5–5 mm long, glabrous, with tube much longer than lobes; upper lobes 1–1.2 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, sometimes minutely chartaceous distally; lateral angle commonly acuminate; sinus c. 1 mm deep; lower lobes 1–1.2 mm long, minutely chartaceous distally; lateral lobes c. 0.8 mm wide, slightly convex and ridged; median lobe similar to laterals; standard to c. 11 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, mostly as two lateral patches, abaxially yellow; wings c. 3 mm wide, yellow; keel c. 3.5 mm wide, red throughout; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 8-ovulate; style 3.5–5 mm long. Pods: stipe 3–5 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 25–35 mm long, 7–9 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin 0.8–1 mm wide, with ridge to c. 0.5 mm high. Seeds 2.5–3.5 mm long, 2–2.5 mm wide; aril 1.5–1.8 mm long, 1–1.3 mm high, with base c. 1 mm long, with lobe curving 90–150º (Fig. 12f).

Selected specimens from 5 examined: NEW SOUTH WALES: lower banks of Brogo River, 0.5 km downstream from wall of Brogo Dam, J.Miles s.n., 9.ix.1997 (MEL).

Flowering period: Flowers from August and September.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in the Brogo River catchment W of Bega in far south-eastern New South Wales (Fig. 14b). Grows in riparian open forest.

Notes: Bossiaea milesiae is very similar to B. fragrans and there are very few collections of the two species available for comparison. Based on the material seen, B. milesiae differs in having cladodes always green, longer pedicels, bracteoles inserted further from the base of pedicel so that the abscission scars are generally not concealed by scales (Fig. 12f), upper calyx-lobes with the lateral angle acuminate, a longer pod-stipe, and a standard that does not have a red stripe abaxially.

The Bracteosa subgroup

37. Bossiaea bombayensis K.L.McDougall,
Telopea 12(3): 351 (2009)


Erect rhizomatous leafless shrubs to c. 1.5 m high with cladodes to c. 5 mm wide, with inflorescences borne on both long and short cladodes, but not generally on a regular series of short side-branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes sub-erect to erecto-patent, mostly 2–5 mm wide, not recessed at nodes or with recession to c. 0.7 mm deep, mostly soon glabrescent; marginal ridges poorly to moderately defined, mostly minutely uneven; new growth narrow-linear in profile, with scattered hairs adjacent to scales, and occasional hairs elsewhere along margins and sometimes also on faces; hairs occasionally persisting; epicuticular wax occasionally developing, lifting in flakes, with cladodes dark green or grey-green. Scales 1–1.5(–2) mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide from midrib to margin, brown, with venation obscure, with base sometimes minutely cordate. Inflorescences: axes contracted; scales 4 or 6, with largest 1.5–2 mm long, 1–1.5 mm wide; scale cluster 2–2.5 mm long; bracteoles caducous before anthesis, 2–3 mm long, c. 1.3 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 1.5–3 mm long, glabrous, not exceeding scale cluster or exceeding by up to 1 mm; bracteoles caducous before anthesis, c. elliptic, 2.5–3.2 mm long, with l:w ratio 1.5–2, appressed, inserted near base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, glabrous, brown. Calyx 3.5–4.5 mm long, glabrous, with tube longer than lobes; upper lobes triangular, 1–1.5 mm long, 1–1.2 mm wide, slightly acuminate, chartaceous distally; sinus 1–1.5 mm deep; lower lobes 1.5–2 mm long, chartaceous distally; lateral lobes 1 mm wide, flat except for distal median ridge; median lobe slightly longer, wider and more convex than laterals; standard to c. 8 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially largely suffused red but streakily pale medially and yellow towards lateral margins; wings 2.5 mm wide, brownish-red proximally, but largely yellow; keel 3.5 mm wide, grading from pale to pink to red; anthers c. 0.6 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 6–8-ovulate; style 3.5–4 mm long. Pods: stipe 1–2.5 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 20–26 mm long, 4–6 mm wide; upper margin 0.7–1 mm wide, flat or with a fine sutural ridge to c. 0.3 mm high; valves with transverse venation obscure. Seeds 2–2.5 mm long, 1.3–1.5 mm wide; aril c. 1 mm long, c. 0.5 mm high, with base 0.6–0.8 mm long, with lobe curving c. 90º (Fig. 12g).

Selected specimens from c. 10 examined: NEW SOUTH WALES: Shoalhaven River at Warri Bridge on Kings Hwy, c. 12 km...

**Flowering period:** Flowers in September and October.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs north-west of Braidwood in far south-eastern New South Wales (Fig. 14c). Rare, and listed as vulnerable under the Threatened Species Conservation Act of New South Wales. Grows in riparian woodland.

**Notes:** Bossiaea bombayensis has the typical inflorescence-scale, bract, bracteole and calyx features of the Bracteosa subgroup, but has more slender cladodes and more slender pods than the other species.


**Type:** Australian Capital Territory. Murrumbidgee River, 1 km downstream from Kambah Pool, I.R.Telford 8553, ix.1980; holotype: CANB 8007070; isotypes: CANB 8007070 (sheet 2); MEL 641512, NSW 567291.

Erect rhizomatous leafless shrubs to c. 1.5 m high, with cladodes to c. 8 mm wide, with inflorescences borne on long or short cladodes, but not generally on a regular series of short side-branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes typically sub-erect, mostly 3–5 mm wide, not recessed at nodes or with recession to c. 0.5 mm deep, glabrous except for a few hairs often persisting in axils; marginal ridges generally smooth; new growth generally linear in outline, glabrous except for scattered hairs on margins adjacent to scales; epicuticular wax developing, lifting in small flakes, with cladodes grey-green at flowering. Scales 1.3–2(–2.2) mm long, 0.5–0.8 mm wide from midrib to margin, appressed, red-brown with pale margins, faintly 1–3-nerved. **Inflorescences:** axes contracted; scales 4–8(–12), with largest 1.5–2 mm long, c. 1.5 mm wide; scale-cluster 2.5–3.5 mm long; bract variably persistent at anthesis, 3–3.5 mm long, 1.5–1.8 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 2–2.5 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles mostly caducous before anthesis, 3–3.5 mm long, with l:w ratio c. 2, appressed, inserted near base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, glabrous, brown. **Calyx** 4.5–5.5 mm long, glabrous, with tube equal to or slightly longer than lobes; upper lobes triangular, 1.5–2 mm long, 1–1.5 mm wide, acute, chartaceous distally; sinus 1.5–2 mm deep; lower lobes 2–2.5 mm long, chartaceous distally; lateral lobes 1.2 mm wide, flat, with medially ridge distally; median lobe slightly longer, broader and more convex than laterals; standard to c. 11 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, abaxially partly flushed red with pale radiating nerves; wings c. 2 mm wide, reddish proximally, yellow distally; keel c. 3 mm wide, grading from pale to pink to red; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, c. 6-ovulate; style 4–5 mm long. **Pods:** stipe 2–4 mm long; narrow-oblong, 20–30 mm long, 6–9 mm wide; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, not ridged. **Seeds** c. 3 mm long, c. 1.8 mm wide; aril c. 1 mm long, c. 0.7 mm high, with base c. 0.6 mm long, with lobe curving c. 150º (Fig. 12e).

**Selected specimens from c. 8 examined:** AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY: Cotter Pumping Station, E.Gauba, 29.ix.1953 (CANB); Paddy’s River, L.Pryor, 1937 (CANB); Molonglo River, directly S of Lower Molonglo Sewage Treatment Plant, N.Taws 310, 18.xii.1993 (CANB, MEL); Murrumbidgee and Cotter Rivers junction, R.Cambage 2990, 5.xi.1911 (NSW). VICTORIA: Limestone Track, c. 1.2 km from the Benamba-Wulgulmerang Rd, J.A.Jeanes 2336, 03.i.2010 (CANB, MEL).

**Flowering period:** Flowers in spring.

**Distribution and habitat:** Occurs in the Australian Capital Territory along the banks of the Murrumbidgee River and its tributaries, and in far north-eastern Victoria (Fig. 14d). Rare, and listed as an endangered species in the Australian Capital Territory. Grows in woodland, with most records describing it as growing in sand or amongst boulders on river banks.

**Notes:** Bossiaea grayi is very similar to *B. vombata* q.v. The record given for Victoria is tentatively identified as *B. grayi* based on vegetative features as it lacks flowers and fruit. In this specimen, galls (which appear to be replacing flowers) are formed at nodes, and these are subtended by normal inflorescence scales that are typical of *B. grayi*. The pattern of epicuticular wax on cladodes is also typical of *B. grayi*.


**Type:** Victoria. Wombat State Forest, Farm Rd, 3.9 km from junction of Back Settlement Rd and the Ballan–Daylesford Rd at Korweinguboora, J.H.Ross 3647, 26.x.1995; holotype: MEL 2043441.
**Erect rhizomatous leafless shrubs** to c. 1.2 m high, with cladodes to c. 12 mm wide, with inflorescences borne on both long and shorter branchlets, but not generally on a regular series of short side-branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes erecto-patent, 2–10 mm wide, with recession at nodes 0.2–1 mm deep, mostly soon glabrescent; marginal ridges well-defined, usually slightly uneven; new growth ±linear in outline, usually transiently sparsely hairy along margins and sometimes on the face; epicuticular wax hardly developed, not transiently sparsely hairy along margins and sometimes on the face; epithelial wax developing, lifting in sheets, with cladodes green at flowering. **Scales** 2–4 mm long, 0.7–1 mm wide from midrib to margin, pale yellow, with venation obscure. **Inflorescences** : axes contracted; occasionally 2 or 3 inflorescences arising from a single axis; scales 4–10, with largest 1.5–2 mm long, c. 1.5 mm wide; scale-cluster 2–3 mm long; bract often persistent until after flowering, 2–3 mm long, c. 1 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel c. 2 mm long, glabrous; bracteoles caducous, narrow oblong-elliptic, 2.8–3.7 mm long, with l:w ratio 3–4, loosely appressed, inserted near base, strongly convex, with venation obscure, glabrous, brown. **Calyx** 4–5 mm long, glabrous, with tube equal to or longer than lobes; upper lobes triangular, 1.7–2.2 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide, slightly acuminate, chartaceous distally; sinus 1.5–2 mm deep; lower lobes 1.5–2.2 mm long, chartaceous distally; lateral lobes 1 mm wide, flat or slightly convex distally associated with medial ridge; median lobe slightly longer, broader and more convex than laterals; standard to c. 10 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare or flare absent, abaxially yellow or partially suffused red; wings 2.5 mm wide, all yellow or patchily suffused red; keel 3.5 mm wide, pale or red throughout; anthers c. 0.6 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 4–6-ovulate; style 3–4 mm long. **Pods** : stipe c. 3 mm long; body glabrous (not seen mature). **Seed** (one collection only) 2.5 mm long, 1.8 mm wide; aril 1.5 mm long, 0.8 mm high, with base 0.8 mm long, with lobe curving c. 135º (Fig. 12a).

**Selected specimens from c. 10 examined**: **VICTORIA**: Spargo–Blakeville Rd, 120 m W of Cairns Rd intersection, adjacent to road on N side, *L.Macaulay*, 24.x.2009 (MEL); Bendoc, W.Hunter, ix.1941 (MEL); Snowy River, behind W Tree, *L.Hodge*, xi.1957 (MEL).

**Flowering period**: Flowers in spring.

**Distribution and habitat**: Occurs in south-central Victoria near Daylesford and in far eastern Victoria at Bendoc and W.Tree (Fig. 14e). Specimens from eastern Victoria (*Hodge* MEL 1529684; *Hunter* MEL 1509814) cannot be identified with certainty as they are sterile; however, they are a good match for *B. vombata* vegetatively. Rare, and likely to warrant recognition as a threatened species. Grows in open forest.

**Notes**: When first described, only pure yellow-flowered populations of *B. vombata* at the type locality were known. Subsequently, nearby populations with red markings have been found. Isolated plants with an absence of red pigmentation have also been recorded for *B. ensata*, *B. cinerea* and *B. cordigera*.

*Bossiaea vombata* is very similar to *B. grayi* but consistently has green cladodes, longer cladode-scales, and is almost always infertile.

**40. Bossiaea bracteosa F.Muell. ex Benth., Fl. Austral. 2: 166 (1864)**


**Erect rhizomatous leafless shrubs** to c. 2 m high, with cladodes to c. 20 mm wide, with inflorescences borne on both long and shorter branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes erecto-patent, mostly 4–12 mm wide, with recession at nodes up to 5 mm deep, mostly soon glabrescent; marginal ridges sharply defined, smooth; new growth often narrowly oblong-elliptic in outline, very sparsely hairy on margins, soon glabrescent; epicuticular wax developing, lifting in sheets, with cladodes green at flowering. **Scales** 3–5 mm long, 1–2.5 mm wide from midrib to margin, generally inset from cladode margin, divergent, brown, multiveined, with numerous radiating and branching veins, with base sometimes cordate. **Inflorescences** : axes contracted; occasionally 2 or 3 inflorescences arising at an axis; scales 6–10, with largest 1.5–2 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide; scale-cluster 2–2.5 mm long; bract caducous, 2.5–3.5 mm long,
1–1.5 mm wide, strongly convex; pedicel 1.5–3 mm long, glabrous, becoming stout in fruit; bracteoles caducous before anthesis, narrow oblong-elliptic, 3.5–4.5 mm long, with l:w ratio 2.5–3.5, loosely appressed, inserted near base, strongly convex, but ±flat near margins, with venation obscure or with midrib distinct, glabrous, brown. Calyx 3.5–4.5 mm long, sometimes with a few hairs near lobe apices, with tube slightly longer than upper lobes; upper lobes c. triangular, 1.4–2 mm long, 1–1.3 mm wide, acute, chartaceous distally; sinus 1.5–2 mm deep; lower lobes 2–2.5 mm long, chartaceous distally; lateral lobes 1.2 mm wide, flat, with medial ridge distally; median lobe slightly longer, broader and more convex than laterals; standard to c. 11 mm long, similar in length to wings and keel, adaxially yellow with a red flare, mostly as two lateral patches, abaxially yellow or flushed red; wings 2.5–3 mm wide, yellow apart from proximal red streak; keel c. 3 mm wide, red ±throughout; anthers c. 0.5 mm long post-dehiscence; ovary glabrous, 6–8-ovulate; style 4–5 mm long. Pods: stipe 2 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 20–32 mm long, 6–10 mm wide, glabrous; upper margin c. 0.7 mm wide, with a ridge to c. 0.5 mm high. Seeds 3–3.5 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide; aril 1–1.5 mm long, 1–1.2 mm high, with base 1–1.2 mm long, with lobe curving 150–200º.

Selected specimens from c. 40 examined: VICTORIA: Mount Hotham area, S.J. Forbes 410, 20.xi.1979 (HO, MEL); Mount Hotham development area, slope falling to Swindlers Creek.
Flowering period: Flowers from November to early January.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in the Dargo High Plains and near Mt Hotham and near the headwaters of the Macalister River in eastern Victoria (Fig. 14f). Categorised as rare in Victoria (Walsh & Stajsic 2007). Grows at 1000–1600 m above sea level in shallow soils in Snow Gum woodland.

Notes: Bossiaea bracteosa is one of a group of four species, the others being B. bombayensis, B. grayi and B. vombata, which have triangular upper calyx-lobes, calyx-lobes distally chartaceous, and large, caducous bracts and bracteoles. The scales of cladodes of B. bracteosa, in addition to being larger than in other leafless species, have much more conspicuous reticulate venation, are sometimes cordate-based, are inserted more deeply within the nodal recesses and are more divergent. The scales are also unique in that their insertion is commonly inset relative to the cladode margin. The bract and bracteoles have recurved, membranous margins.

The recognition by McDougall (2009) of four new species of Bossiaea from material previously placed in B. bracteosa has considerably narrowed the current circumscription of B. bracteosa.

The Walkeri subgroup

41. Bossiaea walkerii F.Muell., Fragm. 2(15): 120 (1861)


Erect leafless shrubs to c. 3 m high, with cladodes to c. 7 mm wide, with inflorescences typically borne on short side-branchlets; inflorescence-bearing cladodes erecto-patent, mostly 2–6 mm wide, with recession at nodes 0.3–1 mm deep, glabrescent; marginal ridges well-defined, generally smooth; new growth linear in profile, sparsely or occasionally densely hairy all over, glabrescent; epicuticular wax generally developed, with crusts lifting in sheets, grey-green at flowering. Juvenile leaves sometimes present near base of stems, with lamina broad-elliptic, to c. 16 mm long. Scales 1.5–2.5 mm long, 0.6–1 mm wide from midrib to margin, dark brown, with multiple veins faintly evident. Inflorescences: axes contracted; scales 4–10, with cluster 1.5–2 mm long; bract caducous before anthesis, 3 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide, convex; pedicel 2–7 mm long, glabrous or hairy proximally; bracteoles caducous before anthesis, elliptic, c. 3 mm long, with l:w ratio 2–2.5, divergent, inserted in proximal third, convex, with margins outcurved, many-nerved, glabrous, orange-brown. Calyx 7–10 mm long, with tube slightly longer than upper lobes; upper lobes 4–5 mm long, 3–4 mm wide, mostly expanded beyond lateral angle by 0.5–1 mm; lateral angle acute; sinus 0.5–1 mm deep; lower lobes 3–4 mm long; lateral lobes 1.5 mm wide, flat; median lobe similar to laterals; standard c. 8 mm long. Pods: stipe 3–4 mm long; body narrow-oblong, 50–60 mm long, 7–12 mm wide; upper margin c. 0.8 mm wide, with a ridge to c. 0.5 mm high. Seeds 3–4 mm long, c. 2 mm wide; aril 2–2.5 mm long, 1.5 mm high, with base c. 1 mm long, with lobe curving 180º.

Selected specimens from c. 200 examined: SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Yellabinna Regional Reserve, Nullarbor Region, F.J.Badman 12224, 11.viii.2006 (AD, CANB, MEL); 37.6 km from Yardea homestead on road to Minnipa, J.D.Briggs 1137, 7.ix.1983 (AD, CANB, MEL, NSW); Chowilla Station, c. 20 km NE of Renmark, E.Robertson, 26.viii.1974 (AD, BRI, CANB). NEW SOUTH WALES: Mandleman station on Cobb Hwy to Mildura Rd, R.C.Weston 142, 21.viii.1988 (AD, BRI, CANB); Bundure Station, N of Mt Hope, P.Martensz 158, 22.v.1969 (CANB, NSW). VICTORIA: Wyperfeld National Park, c. 1 km E of Cambacanya clearing, A.C.Beaglehole 28834, 2.x.1968 (AD, MEL); Boundary Bend, c. 30 km N of Kenley, A.Begg, 29.vii.1962 (AD, MEL).

Flowering period: Flowers in winter and spring.

Distribution and habitat: Occurs in arid regions of southern Western Australia, South Australia, western New South Wales and far north-western Victoria (Fig. 14g). Grows mostly in mallee woodland, often in red sandy soils.

Notes: Bossiaea walkerii is distinguished from other leafless species in eastern Australia by large flowers with an elongate keel, thin, outrolling cladode-scale margins,
hairy pod-margins, and seeds with a knobbly aril. Bracts and bracteoles are distinctively striate, and margins of these and inflorescence scales are relatively long-ciliate. It is the only species of *Bossiaea* in eastern Australia to occupy arid regions.

The closest relative amongst the eastern leafless species to *B. walkerii* is unclear. From the Riparia subgroup, *Bossiaea riparia* is similar in having cladodes with hairy faces, while *B. peninsularis* is similar in terms of its striate bracts and bracteoles. However, in terms of caducous bracts and bracteoles and numbers of inflorescence scales, *B. walkerii* is closer to the Bracteosa subgroup.

**Names of uncertain application**


The type specimen does not match any other material seen in the course of this revision. It may be a hybrid as it appears to be somewhat intermediate between *B. stephensonii* *q.v.* and several other species that occur in the Sydney region, including *B. obcordata*, *B. nummularia* and *B. prostrata*.


*Type:* not designated. [Protologue: ‘Native of New Holland’] There is insufficient information from the protologue to identify this taxon and there is no known type material.


*Type:* not designated. [Protologue has no locality or collector information.] There is insufficient information from the protologue to identify this taxon and there is no known type material.

**Acknowledgements**

I am grateful to Collections staff at the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne for their assistance with mapping, loan requests and processing, to Dr Lachlan Copeland for making some valuable field collections, and to AD, BRI, CANB, HO, MEL, NE and NSW for making their collections available for study. This study was funded by Australian Biological Resources Study (ABRS Grant no. 207-01), which is a program within the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

**References**


## Appendix: Index of scientific names

Epithets of accepted names are in roman typeface, and also in bold if the taxon is new, has new status, or has been resurrected in this revision. Epithets of synonyms are in italics.

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