

# Acacia verticillata subsp. ruscifolia

## COMMON NAME

prickly Moses

## FAMILY

Fabaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Acacia verticillata* subsp. *ruscifolia* (A.Cunn. ex G.Don) Court

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## HABITAT

Waste places and scrubland. Seeds itself away from old house gardens, farms or similar.

## FEATURES

Shrub to small tree, stems ribbed, sparsely to densely hairy. Leaves reduced to small sharply pointed phyllodes up to 17 x 3 mm. Inflorescence consists of numerous pale yellow flowers arranged in spikes that extend beyond the leaves. Seed pod usually straight, up to 100 x 4 mm.

## SIMILAR TAXA

The sharply pointed phyllodes (false leaves) and flowers arranged in spikes make *A. verticillata* easily identifiable.

## FLOWERING

September, October, November.

## FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

## YEAR NATURALISED

1948

## ORIGIN

S.E. Australia, Tasmania

## ETYMOLOGY

**acacia:** Derived from Greek 'akazo' to sharpen, meaning point; spine or thorn.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/acacia-verticillata-subsp-ruscifolia/>



*Acacia verticillata*. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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