

***Acacia gibsoniana*, a new name for the Western Australian
Acacia gibsonii (Fabaceae)**

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SHORT COMMUNICATION

Acacia gibsonii Maslin was described in 2013 for a new Western Australian species and was named for Dr Neil Gibson, the co-discoverer of the species and collector of the type specimen (Maslin 2013). However, during recent studies on the flora of western India (the Konkan region) by the second author (PKP) it was discovered that this same name had been published by John Graham in 1839 for a species in India (Graham 1839: 59). While the name *A. gibsonii* J.Graham was validly published, it was not included in any subsequent literature, Indian floras or global plant name databases (e.g. GBIF 2026, IPNI 2026, POWO 2026) that we have seen.

The name *Acacia gibsonii* Maslin is therefore a later homonym of *Acacia gibsonii* J.Graham and hence a new replacement name, *Acacia gibsoniana* Maslin & Pusalkar is here proposed.

Acacia gibsoniana* Maslin & Pusalkar, *nom. nov.

≡ *Acacia gibsonii* Maslin, *Nuytsia* 23: 277 (2013), non *A. gibsonii* J.Graham, *Cat. Pl. Bombay* 59 (1839).
Type: south of Hyden–Norseman Road, Western Australia [precise locality withheld for conservation purposes], 5 September 2012, *N. Gibson* 6434 (*holo*: PERTH 08396086; *iso*: MEL 2385586).

Identity of *Acacia gibsonii* J.Graham

Graham's description of *A. gibsonii* was very short: 'Keemjee. – an unarmed tree with smooth white bark and red leafy legumes – flowers in October.' and was based on [A.] Gibson specimens from 'The Ajunta and Sautpoora Hills'. Both sites were located in the former British Bombay Presidency, namely, Ajunta (=Ajantha) in Maharashtra State and Sautpoora Hills (= Satpura Hills) in Maharashtra-Madhya Pradesh States of India today. Although we were unable to locate any of Gibson's collections, Graham's description clearly applies to what was then called *Acacia procera* (Roxb.) Willd. [today = *Albizia procera* (Roxb.) Benth.]. Indeed, Graham's characters were used by Dalzell and Gibson (1861: 87) in their account of *Acacia procera* for the Bombay flora, and it is relevant to recall that A. Gibson was the collector of Graham's *A. gibsonii* specimens. Furthermore, Dalzell and Gibson (*l.c.*) cited the vernacular name 'Kinje' in their *A. procera* description (under *A. gibsonii* Graham misspelled the same name as 'Keemjee'); today *Albizia lebbek* is called *Kinayi*, *Kinhai* or *Pandhra Sirish* in Marathi language, Maharashtra, India.

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