

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower head, seed head, and leaves. Photographer Don Wood, Broulee Beach



Young flower head. Photographer Lyn Allison, Westgate Park, Melbourne, Vic



Flowering plant. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, near Bendalong

Common name

Dune thistle

Family

Asteraceae

Where found

Beaches, dunes and coastal cliffs. Coastal.

Notes

Perennial herb to 0.6 m tall, forming large clumps, the whole plant hairless or rough. Leaves usually with prickly margins. Stems and leaves fleshy. Outer **bracts** surrounding the bases of the flowers with a row of fleshy spines near the base. Leaves basal and **alternating** up the stems, 1.5-20 cm long, 5-60 mm wide, sometimes deeply divided, margins **entire** to toothed, bases either tapering, or **cordate** and stalkless. Flower **heads** with many yellow '**petals**' each 6-10 mm long, and yellow centres 10-20 mm in diameter. Flowers most of the year.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Actites~megalocarpus> (accessed 2 January, 2021)

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