

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Stems with male flowers. Photographer Don Wood, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Female flower and stem. Photographer Jackie Miles



Plant. Photographer Jackie Miles

Common name

None

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Where found

Moist gullies in **forest**. East from the Pacific Highway north from the Sydney area. Ranges west of Moruya. One record from Morton National Park.

Notes

Shrub to 3 m high, densely covered with rusty **stellate** hairs (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 1–5 cm long, 5–15 mm wide, soft and brittle, upper surface dark to medium green, lower surface pale, margins finely wavy. Male and female flowers on different plants or on the same plant. Flowers with 4–5 '**petals**'. '**Petals**' of male flowers 4–5 mm long. '**Petals**' of female flowers 3–4 mm long, rigid, slightly enlarging around the seed cases. Ovary densely hairy, becoming hairless. Flowering: early spring to summer.

Intermediates occur in the Sydney region and on the South Coast between *Bertya pomaderroides* and *Bertya brownii*. upper surface of the leaves is hairless, the **perianth** and **ovary** are mostly hairless as in *Bertya pomaderroides* and the leaves are larger and with flatter margins as in *Bertya brownii*.

The note in PlantNET that gives these facts is unchanged from that in James, T.A. & Harden, G.J. in Harden, G.J. (ed.) (2000), Euphorbiaceae. *Flora of New South Wales* Revised Edition 1: 417 (accessed 6 February 2021)

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvi=sp&name=Bertya~brownii> (accessed 6 February 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.



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