

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Photographer Dane Wimbush, Bournda National Park north of Merimbula



Leaves and backs of flowers. Photographer Ken Thomas, Kowen woodland, ACT



Pods and leaves. Photographer Russell Best, Macedon Ranges, Vic

Common name

Creeping bossiaea

Family

Fabaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, **woodland**, grassy areas, along streams, and other **habitats**. Widespread.

Notes

Shrub, **prostrate** or sprawling, to about 0.2 m tall. Smaller stems more or less flat to oval in cross section, sometimes ridged, hairy to sparsely hairy. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, 0.3-2.5 cm long, 2-15 mm wide, variable on a single plant, round to narrow oblong, hairless or sparsely hairy. Leaf stalks 2-5 mm long, with a joint. Flowers 6-10 mm long, pea shaped, with 5 **petals**, 2 joined together to form the **keel**. **Standard** petal yellow with a red flare inside, pinkish red to pinkish or reddish brown outside with long, radiating pale streaks, or yellow suffused red and brown, **wings** purplish brown to dark red or brownish red, sometimes with a yellow tip, keel purplish brown to dark red, pale at the base, red towards the tip. Flowers 1 or 2 together. Flowers Spring.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Bossiaea~prostrata> (accessed 5 January, 2021)

Description partly based on Thompson, I.R., (2012) A revision of eastern Australian *Bossiaea* (Fabaceae: Bossiaeeae). *Muelleria* 30(2): 138-140

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