

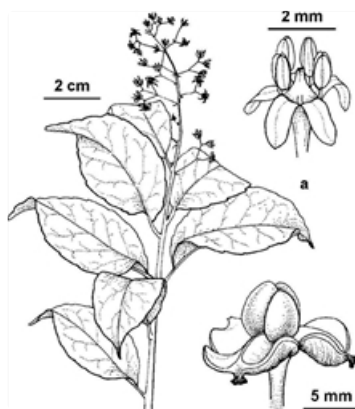
Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Bush Heritage Reserve, Brogo



Seed cases and leaves. Photographer Don Wood, north of Milton



Line drawings. a. flowering branch; flower; seed case. M.Mbir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board.

Common name

Staff climber, Staff vine

Family

Celastraceae

Where found

Forest. Coast, ranges, and the eastern part of the tablelands.

Notes

Twining or **scrambling shrub**. Seeds with a fleshy **aril**. Branches mostly grey to grey-brown, more or less hairless, with numerous pale **lenticels**. Young branchlets hairless to hairy, with broad **scales** to 3 mm long near the bases of the branchlets. The margins of the scales appear to have been chewed. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 3–10 cm long, 10–50 mm wide, margins **entire** or toothed, tips pointed. Male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers 3–5 mm in diameter, with 5 yellowish green to cream **petals** 1.5–3 mm long, in branched clusters. Female flowers sometimes have **stamens** that do not produce pollen, smaller than the stamens in male flowers. Flowers most of the year. Seed cases yellow drying light brown, the inner surface with scattered red spots, 2–6.5 mm long. Seeds with an orange to orange red aril completely surrounding the seed.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Celastrus~australis> (accessed 7 January, 2021)

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