

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer Jackie Mles



Flowering plant. Photographer Don Wood, Bomaderry Regional Reserve near Nowra



Flowering plant. Photographer Jackie Mles



Line drawings. d. plant; flower; seed. MMBir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Narrow-flowered centaury, Branched centaury, Slender centaury, Pink stars, Centaury

Family

Gentianaceae

Where found

Disturbed sites and roadsides, often in shady places. Widespread.

Notes

Introduced annual herb to 0.4 m tall. Stems angular, hairless. Basal **rosette** absent or weakly developed. Leaves opposite each other, 1.5-4 cm long, 5-15 mm wide, hairless. Flowers 7-13 mm long, red to pink, tubular, with five lobes each 3-6 mm long, in branched clusters. Corolla dries purplish. **Calyx** mostly 6-8 mm long and usually at least half the length of the **corolla** tube. Flowers Spring to Summer.

Hybridises with *Centaurium erythraea*.

Differs from *Schenkia australis* in that both branches of the **inflorescence** are about the same size. **Style** is slightly forked; **stigma** lobes kidney-shaped to shoe-shaped, fleshy. Seed case **linear**.

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

Author: Betty Wood.



Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia (CC BY)

This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:



Android edition



iOS edition