

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer Richard Hartland, French Island, Vic



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, south of Eden



Plant. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer D Verdon, Araluen Valley

Common name

Love creeper

Family

Polygalaceae

Where found

Forest, **woodland**, **heath**, and **shrubland**. Coast and mountainous areas.

Notes

Perennial twiner with stems to 3 m long. Stems angled, ridged, **wiry**, hairless or with short hairs along the ridges. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 0.5–5 cm long, 1–9 mm wide, often reduced or falling off early, leaving the stems leafless, thin, lower surface paler, margins curved or rolled down. Flowers with 3 **petals** in the middle of the flower, the largest looking like the **keel** of a pea flower, and 2 coloured **sepals** that look like the **wings** of a pea flower. Flowers purplish blue, purplish pink, blue-mauve, pink or white. Keel pouched and darker than the other petals and the sepals, its tips yellow to cream. Wing sepals 4–7 mm long. Flowers in clusters 3–20 cm long. Flowering: July–December. Seed cases with a narrow **wing**.

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=Comesperma~volubile> (accessed 7 January, 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.

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