

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra



Trunk. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra

## Common name

White-flowered wax plant, White cynanchum

## Family

Apocynaceae

## Where found

**Forest**, **woodland**, **shrubland**, scree slopes, **rainforest** gullies, and along streams. Blue Mountains and the Sydney area, and south to Gerringong.

## Notes

Climber or twiner to 10 m tall. Plants are capable of suckering from the rootstock in response to occasional slashing or grazing. Fruit at first fleshy, becoming a dry pod at maturity. Bark becoming corky, fissured, cream to **fawn**. Stems sparsely hairy, becoming hairless. Leaves opposite each other, rarely in **whorls** of 3, 1.5–10.5 cm long, 10–75 mm wide, tips pointed, bases squared off to scarcely **cordate**, 2 basal **glands** present, surfaces mostly more or less hairless. Flowers white, 6–12 mm in diameter, tubular, with 5 **spreading** lobes 3–4 mm long, in few-flowered clusters. Flowering: most of the year. Seeds with long **silky** hairs attached to one end.

Family was Asclepiadaceae.

Endangered Australia. Endangered NSW. Provisions of the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 No 63 relating to the protection of protected plants generally also apply to plants that are a threatened species.

NSW Threatened Species profile: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10196> (accessed 4 January, 2021)

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Cynanchum~elegans> (accessed 4 January, 2021)

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