

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower head. Photographer Richard Hartland, unknown place



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



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

Common name

Blue devil

Family

Apiaceae

Where found

Woodland, grassy areas, and disturbed sites. Mainly tablelands, ACT, and the Western Slopes. Occasionally elsewhere.

Notes

Annual or **perennial** herb to 0.60 m high, upper parts often metallic blue in colour. Leaves, **bracts** below and within the flower **heads**, and **calyx** lobes on individual flowers, with sharp tips. Basal leaves in a **rosette**, deeply **dissected**, 7–45 cm long, the **segments linear**, 25–70 mm long. Stem leaves opposite each other, 1–6 cm long, less divided. Flower heads blue, oval to globular, 40–52 mm in diameter overall, with many individual small flowers. Individual flowers with 5 blue **petals**. Bracts within the flower heads 5–20 mm long, greenish when immature, becoming metallic blue. Flowers mainly November–January.

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=Eryngium~ovinum> (accessed 14 January, 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.

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