

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering and seeding clusters. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, NE of Townsville, Qld



Flowering and seeding plant. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, NE of Townsville, Qld

## Common name

Asthma Plant

## Family

Euphorbiaceae

## Where found

**Forest, woodland**, grassy areas, and disturbed sites. North of Picton.

## Notes

**Introduced annual** herb to 0.4 m high or sprawling. Stems produce a milky exudate when cut or broken. Stems with sparse to dense, short curled **appressed** hairs and long, **spreading** yellowish hairs. Leaves opposite each other, about 2.5-5 cm long, 11-26 mm wide, hairy with short appressed hairs, becoming hairless on the upper surface, margins toothed, tips blunt to pointed. Male and female flowers on the same plant. Flowers tiny, green, with 0 **petals**, in small dense **head**-like clusters that look like a single flower, each cluster with 1-7 male flowers and 1 female flower, each flower less than 1 mm long and wide, surrounded by 4 **glands**. Glands reddish. Small pink or white appendages at the base of the seed cases, or sometimes appendages absent. Flowering: mainly spring or summer. Seed cases 1.5 mm in diameter.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Euphorbia~hirta> (accessed 16 January, 2021)

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