

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales

Common name

A bedstraw

Family

Rubiaceae

Where found

Forest, often among rocks. ACT and Kosciuszko National Park. South of the Hume Highway - ranges, tablelands, and Western Slopes.

Notes

Perennial herb, trailing to semi-**erect**. Stems mostly to 0.6 m long, with angles slightly to moderately broadened, sometimes as wide as the faces, densely hairy. Leaves and leaf-like **stipules** in **whorls** of 4. Stipules about the same length as the leaves below the flower clusters, decreasing in length up the stems, sometimes absent at the top. Leaves 0.3–2.5 cm long, 1–6 mm wide; upper surface with clear slender hairs, lower surface with clear slender hairs on the **midrib** and occasionally elsewhere, margins with clear slender hairs, and curved or rolled down; tips sometimes with a **terminal** hair. Flowers greenish cream or cream, sometimes red underneath, 1.8–3 mm in diameter, with 4 **petals** fused together near their bases, in clusters of 2-30-flowers. Flowering: mid-spring to summer. 'Seeds' about 1 mm long, dark brown, hairless, wrinkled.

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=Galium~polyanthum> (accessed 22 January, 2021)

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