

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



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



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Ben Boyd National Park, north of Eden



Shrub. Photographer Russell Best, Mallacoota, Vic

## Common name

Shrubby velvet-bush

## Family

Malvaceae

## Where found

**Forest, woodland, heath**, and amongst rocks near streams. Coast, ranges, and the eastern edge of the tablelands. Doubtfully **naturalised** in the ACT.

## Notes

**Shrub** to 3 m tall. Stems covered with rusty **stellate** hairs (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 2.5–13 cm long, 10–70 mm wide, bases often **cordate**, tips pointed; upper surface **scurfy** to hairless, lower surface rusty-**tomentose**, margins flat or slightly curved down. Flowers hairless inside and purple to pink or cream to white; rusty-stellate hairy (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see) on the outside, with 5 '**petals**' 6–8 mm long, joined at the base. Flowers in short dense clusters of about 6–12 flowers. Flowers Spring.

Family was Sterculiaceae.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Lasiopetalum-macrophyllum> (accessed 22 January, 2021)

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