

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



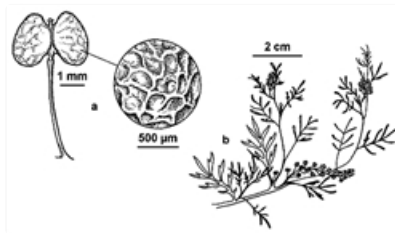
Flowers. Photographer Malcolm Storey, England



Flowering stems. Photographer Bart Wursten, Zimbabwe



Plant. Photographers Forest & Kim Starr, Hawaii



Line drawings (as *Coronopus didymus*). a. seed case; b. plant. M.Mbir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Lesser Swinecress

Family

Brassicaceae

Where found

Weed of disturbed areas. Mostly Sydney area and ACT. Occasionally elsewhere.

Notes

Introduced annual or **perennial** herb to 0.3 m high, or **prostrate**. Hairless to hairy, with an unpleasant odour. Basal leaves to 9 cm long, deeply **dissected** or **compound**, with 7-11 further deeply dissected or divided, with more or less **linear** lobes. Stem leaves **alternating** up the stems, becoming smaller, finally **entire**. Flowers tiny, with 4 **sepals** 1-2 mm long, and 4 white **petals** shorter than the sepals, or absent. Flower cluster longer than the leaves at the seeding stage. Flowers spring–summer. Seed cases 1.5 mm long, 2–3 mm wide, with 2 lobes, constricted at the join, separating into two halves, each half almost globular. (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see.) Stalks of seed cases 1.5–3 mm long.

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

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