

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



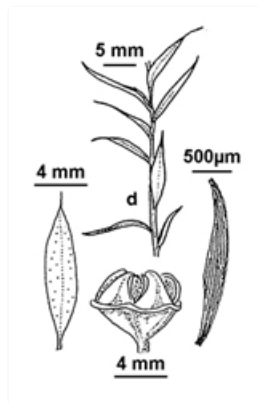
Flowers, seed cases, and leaves. Photographer Don Wood, East Boyd State Forest south of Eden



Nuts and leaves. Photographer Russell Best, Macedon Ranges, Vic



Shrub. Photographer Richard Hartland, Longwarry, Vic



Line drawings. d. branchlet, leaf, nut, seed. SM Clarke, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

## Common name

Prickly tea-tree

## Family

Myrtaceae

## Where found

**Forest, woodland, heath**, grassy areas, gullies, stream banks, seepage areas, and swampy sites. Widespread.

## Notes

**Shrub** to 4 m tall, occasionally tree-like. Leaves sharp pointed. Bark on smaller stems smooth, shedding in stringy strips; on older stems rough and finely fissured. In very old plants the bark may peel off in flaky strips. Stems hairy, with conspicuous flanges curving about the stem. Leaves aromatic when rubbed, **alternating** up the stems, 0.5-1.8 cm long, usually 1-3.5 mm wide, broadest at the base and tapering upward, surfaces hairless; margins curved upwards (rarely flat), with minute teeth. Young leaf shoots **silky**, becoming hairless; bases tapering to a more or less distinct stalk. Flowers 6-12 mm in diameter, with 5 white or occasionally flushed pink **petals**. Flowers usually single. Flowers produced on new growth. Flowers Spring to Summer. Nuts usually long-persisting, 5-8 mm in diameter.

Hybridises with *Leptospermum myrtifolium*.

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=Leptospermum-continentale> (accessed 12 January, 2021)

Additional information in: Thompson, J. (8 December 1989), A revision of the genus *Leptospermum* (Myrtaceae). *Telopea* 3(3): 417-418, map 8-59

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*This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:*



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*Android edition*



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