

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



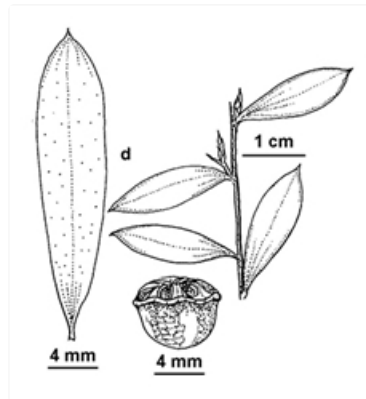
Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Young nuts on branch. Photographer John Tann, Sydney



Shrub. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, near Airey's Inlet, Vic



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

Common name

Coast tea-tree

Family

Myrtaceae

Where found

Heath and occasionally dry **forest** on sand. Dunes and coastal cliffs. Coastal.

Plants recorded in the Sydney area well inland from beaches, and on the Great Western Highway in the Blue Mountains, are probably planted/**naturalised**.

Notes

Shrub or tree to 6 m tall. Bark on smaller stems smooth or becoming rough; bark on older stems usually rough, shedding in strips. Younger stems hairy, becoming hairless, with a groove near the bases of the leaf stalks. Leaves aromatic when rubbed, **alternating** up the stems, 1.5-3 cm long, 5-10 mm wide, broadest above the middle, flat, surfaces grey to grey-green, hairless or becoming hairless; tips blunt with a small point and often folded upwards; bases tapering to a short rather flattened stalk. Flowers usually 15-20 mm in diameter, with 5 white **petals**. Flowers usually in pairs. Flowers Winter to Spring. Nuts with 6-11 slits in the top, usually 7-8 mm in diameter, with a slightly fleshy outer surface, usually shed early but sometimes tardily so.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Leptospermum-laevigatum> (accessed 12 January, 2021)

Additional information in: Thompson, J. (8 December 1989), A revision of the genus *Leptospermum* (Myrtaceae). *Telopea* 3(3): 372-373, map 4-24

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