

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering branch. Photographer Jackie Miles



Flowering branches. Photographer Jackie Miles



Fruiting branches. Photographer Jackie Miles



Tree. Photographer Jackie Miles

Common name

Narrow-leaf privet, Chinese privet, Small-leaved privet

Family

Oleaceae

Where found

Rainforest and regrowth, urban bushland, open **woodland**, disturbed sites, roadsides, gullies, and along streams. Widespread, mostly in cities and towns, and along roads.

Notes

Introduced tree or **shrub** to 7 m high. Sometimes partly **deciduous** in colder areas. Fruit fleshy. Bark smooth. Young stems cylindrical, with prominent **lenticels**, hairy, becoming hairless. Leaves opposite each other, 1–13 cm long, 5–55 mm wide, mid to dull green, densely hairy to hairless, margins **entire** or wavy, tips pointed. Flowers fragrant, sickly sweet, white to cream with mauve to purple **anthers**, tubular, the funnel-shaped tube 0.5–2 mm long, with 4 lobes each 2–5.5 mm long. Flowers in branched clusters 4–11 cm long. Flowering: chiefly late winter to spring. Fruit dull purple or bluish-black when ripe, oval to round, 3–6 mm long.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW. General Biosecurity Duty with additional restrictions in the Central Tablelands, NSW. Pest plant ACT.

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

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