

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering branch (f. *longifolia*). Photographer Don Wood, Bomaderry Creek Regional Reserve near Nowra



Flowering branch. Photographer Jackie Miles



Fruit. Photographer John Tann, Paruna Reserve, south of Sydney



Trunk. Photographer John Tann, Paruna Reserve, south of Sydney



Shrub. Photographer John Tann, Paruna Reserve, south of Sydney

## Common name

Large Mock-olive, Large-leaved Olive, Long-leaved Native Olive

## Family

Oleaceae

## Where found

**Forest** and stream banks. Coast, ranges, and the eastern edge of the tablelands.

f. *glabra*: North from the Sydney area.

f. *intermedia*: North from the Nowra district.

f. *longifolia*: North from the Eden district. Mainly north from the Moruya district.

## Notes

Tree or **shrub** to about 9 m high. Fruit fleshy. Bark grey to greyish brown, hard, fissured and scaly in larger trees. Branchlets grey or brown, usually with conspicuous white **lenticels**, sparsely hairy, soon becoming hairless. Buds at the bases of the leaves 2–4, pointed, hairless or hairy. Leaves opposite each other, 3.5–16 cm long, 10–56 mm wide, variable in size and shape, tips pointed or sometimes blunt, upper surface dark green, lower surface pale, texture stiff, **veins** on the upper surface conspicuous. Flowers with 4 cream to green or pale yellow **petals** 1.5–2.5 mm long, more or less free from each other except joined in 2 pairs at the base. Flower clusters 5–13-flowered. Flowering: April–October. Fruit bluish black when ripe, only a little longer than broad, 10–16 mm long.

**f. glabra:** Leaves, stems, and the buds at the bases of the leaves hairless, rarely with hairs.

**f. intermedia:** Leaves, stems, and the buds at the bases of the leaves sparsely to moderately hairy.

**f. longifolia:** Leaves (especially on lower surface), young stems, leaf stalks, the buds at the bases of the leaves, and the common stalks of the flower clusters densely hairy.

PlantNET description of species and key to forms: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Notelaea~longifolia> (accessed 23 January, 2021)

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