

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Photographer Jackie Miles



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Torrakin



Stems with young and open seed cases.
Photographer Jackie Miles

Common name

Coarse stinkweed

Family

Rubiaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, **heath**, and stream banks. Widespread. Few records from Kosciuszko National Park.

Notes

Shrub to 2 m or more high or **prostrate**, sometimes tangled amongst other vegetation. Stems ribbed, hairless to densely hairy, often rough. Leaves opposite each other, usually 1–6 cm long, 5–20 mm wide, tips with long points, upper surface rough to hairy, lower surface hairless to hairy or rough, particularly on the **veins**, margins flat to curved down. Flowers 2–4 mm long, with 3–5 **petals** more or less fused at their bases, in 10–30 flowered **heads**. Heads on curved down stalks mostly 5–15 mm long. Flowering: spring–summer.

Definite identification of species of *Opercularia* in part requires microscopic examination of the seeds, beyond the scope of this key.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lv=sp&name=Opercularia-aspera> (accessed 29 January, 2021)

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