

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower head and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Paul Hadobas, north of Braidwood



Plant. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Paul Hadobas, north of Braidwood



Seeds. Bar is 1 mm. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer B Clinton, National Seed Bank, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT

Common name

A Stinkweed

Family

Rubiaceae

Where found

Forest, heath, and **grassland**. Coast and ranges. Occasionally tablelands and Western Slopes..

Notes

Small **perennial** herb, weakly **erect** or sprawling. Stems hairless or rough with minute projections. Leaves opposite each other, 1–3 cm long, 1–8 mm wide, tips with long points, upper surface rough with minute projections, lower surface almost hairless. Flowers 1.5–3 mm long, with 3–5 **petals** more or less fused at their bases, in **heads** of 2 or more flowers. Heads on curved down stalks usually 2–9 mm long. Flowering: spring–autumn. Seeding heads 3–8 mm in diameter.

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&lvl=sp&name=Opercularia~diphylla> (accessed 29 January, 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.

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