

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower, leafy stems, and seed cases. Photographer Jackie Miles



Plant. Photographer Jackie Miles



Line drawings. b. flowering branch; seed case inset.
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Common name

Dune wood-sorrel

Family

Oxalidaceae

Where found

Coastal. On stabilised sand-dunes, in *Banksia integrifolia* woodland. Islands, beaches and coastal sand dunes. Sandy stream banks.

Notes

Perennial herb to 0.35 m high, sometimes **prostrate**. Stems dull red-brown, hairless or sparsely hairy, the hairs mostly pointing up (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Often roots at the **nodes**. Roots fibrous and branched, or occasionally with a slender taproot. **Bulbs** and **bulbils** absent. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, sometimes almost opposite each other or **whorled**, each with three **bilobed**, often angular, leaflets 0.2–0.9 cm long, 2–15 mm wide, purplish green to bluish and almost **glaucous**, more or less hairless above, sparsely hairy below, margins fringed, the lobe tips very blunt, 1.5–7 mm apart. **Stipules** mostly conspicuous, to about 3 mm long; membranous, margins fringed, tips squared off or tapering abruptly to the leaf stalk. Flowers with 5 yellow **petals** each 7–10 mm long. Flowers in clusters of 1–2 flowers. Flowers throughout the year. Seed cases long and cylindrical, 13–24 mm long, 3–4 mm in diameter, the outer surface usually densely hairy with hairs pointing down, occasionally also with longer **spreading** hairs (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see).

Rare Vic.

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

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