

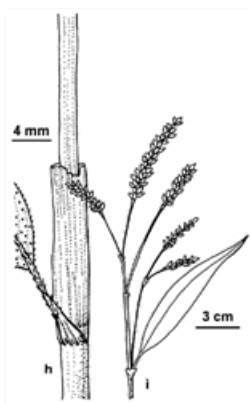
Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower spike. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Jerrabomberra Wetlands, ACT



Flowering stem. Photographer Don Wood, Namadji National Park, ACT



Line drawings. h. portion of stem showing sheath and leaf base; i. Flower clusters. BM Mayfield, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Pale knotweed

Family

Polygonaceae

Where found

Moist disturbed sites, along streams, roadside ditches, and in water. Widespread. Mostly Sydney area and the ACT.

Notes

Annual or **biennial** herb to 1.8 m tall. Stems hairless, often reddish, occasionally densely hairy, often slightly sticky. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 6-21 cm long, 8-60 mm wide, hairless to hairy, with **glands** dense on the lower surface and scattered on the upper surface, **midrib** and margins hairy or rough, **stipular sheath** (ocrea) without fringing hairs. Flowers pink, sometimes pale or greenish, with 4-5 '**petals**' each 1.5-3 mm long, in dense oval to cylindrical **spikes** 20-80 mm long, often several together. Flowers Sep.–May.

Regarded as native in NSW and ACT, and of Uncertain Status (native or **naturalised**) in Vic.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Persicaria~lapathifolia> (accessed 13 April 2021)

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