

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Photographer Don Wood, near Nerriga



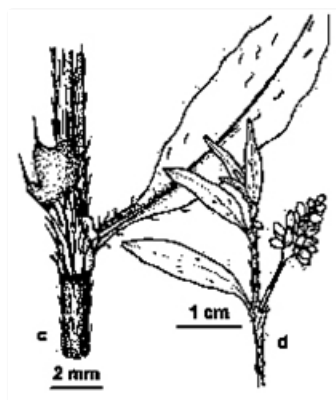
Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, near Hoskinstown



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Mt Tennent, ACT



Plant. Photographer Rosemary Purdie, Stony Creek Nature Reserve, ACT



Line drawings. c. portion of stem showing sheath and leaf base; d. Flower clusters. EMMayfield, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Creeping knotweed

Family

Polygonaceae

Where found

Gullies, sandy or rocky banks of streams, and other damp places, sometimes in water. Widespread. Mostly ACT and tablelands.

Notes

Perennial herb, **prostrate** or sprawling, often with a woody rootstock. Stems to about 40 cm long, sparsely to rather densely hairy,

occasionally sticky hairy. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, 1-7 cm long, 3-10 mm wide, somewhat hairy, occasionally slightly sticky hairy, margins and **main veins** often with short hairs. **Stipular sheath** (ocrea) hairy, its expanded top part free from the stem, margin lobed and toothed, fringing hairs 1-2 mm long. Flowers pinkish, brown, or white to green, with 4-5 '**petals**' each 1.8-3 mm long, free from each other from about midway. Flowers in round to shortly cylindrical **spikes** 6-40 mm long. Flowers Dec.-May.

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~prostrata> (accessed 30 January, 2021)

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