

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower heads and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, Photographers RG & FJ Richardson, St Arnaud, Vic



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Carpet. Australian Plant Image Index, Photographer RG & FJ Richardson, Donald, Vic

## Common name

Lippia

## Family

Verbenaceae

## Where found

Pastures, grasslands, roadsides, and near streams, particularly on the flood plain of the Murray–Darling Basin. Western Slopes. Occasionally Sydney area. Doubtfully **naturalised** in the ACT. Mostly in wetter inland **habitats** on clay soils

## Notes

**Introduced prostrate perennial** herb with stems to 0.9 m long, usually forming a dense mat over the ground surface. Roots at the **nodes**. Flowering stems 1–11 cm long, sometimes **erect**. Leaves somewhat fleshy. Stems with closely **appressed** tiny hairs, or nearly hairless. Leaves opposite each other, 1–7.2 cm long, 2–10 mm wide, greyish-green, hairy to hairless, margins with short blunt teeth, rarely **entire**, tips blunt. Individual flowers usually mauve or pinkish, sometimes purple or white, with yellowish centres, 2–2.5 mm in diameter, tubular, 2-lipped, with 4 uneven lobes. Calyx lobes shorter than **calyx** tube. Flowers in many-flowered rounded clusters 3–10 mm long, 5–10 mm in diameter. One cluster per pair of leaves. Flowers mostly October–April.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW.

**Phyla nodiflora var. minor** in Vic.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Phyla~canescens> (accessed 31 January, 2021)

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