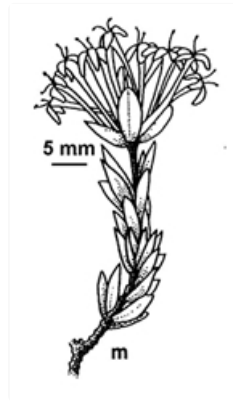


Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems (subsp. *caesia*). Photographer Don Wood, Namadji National Park, ACT



Line drawing (subsp. *caesia*), m flowering branch. M Mbir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board



Flowering stems (subsp. *collina*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, west of Springsure, Qld



Flowering stems (subsp. *linifolia*). Photographer Don Wood, between Huskisson and Tomerong, near Jervis Bay



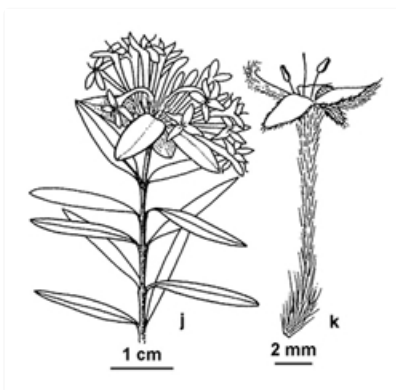
Flowering stems (subsp. *linifolia*). Photographer Don Wood, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Line drawing (subsp. *linifolia*), l flowering branch. M Mbir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board



Flowering stems (subsp. *linoides*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Line drawing (subsp. *linoides*). j. flowering branch; k. flower. M.M. Air, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Slender Rice-flower

Family

Thymelaeaceae

Where found

Forest, **woodland**, heath, shrubland, grassy areas, roadsides, rocky areas, coastal dunes, and damp sites. Widespread.

subsp. *caesia*: Open **forest**, woodland, heath, and rocky areas. Kosciuszko National Park, the mountains to the north, and ACT. Occasionally elsewhere.

subsp. *collina*: Forest and heath, usually in damper sites than subsp. *linifolia*. Widespread.

subsp. *linifolia*: Variety of **habitats** from coastal dunes and headlands to high ranges. Widespread.

subsp. *linoides*: Open forest on sandstone, often in exposed positions. Ranges and tablelands north and east of Goulburn.

Notes

Shrub to 2.5 m high to **prostrate**. Stems hairless. Leaves opposite each other, 0.3–4 cm long, 0.5–9 mm wide, hairless. Flowers bisexual and female on the same plant. Flowers white or occasionally pink, rarely yellow, mostly 10–20 mm long, tubular, with 4 **spreading** lobes 1.5–5 mm long. Flowers in **heads** of 2–60 flowers, **subtended** by 4, rarely more, leaf-like **bracts** each 0.4–1.9 cm long, 1.5–11 mm wide, hairless outside, hairless or partially hairy inside, green or reddish. Flowers Winter to Summer.

subsp. caesia: Prostrate or clump-forming **shrub** to 0.5 m high. Leaves 0.3–1.8 cm long, 1–6 mm wide, usually rather **glaucous**, bluish, rarely green, both sides the same colour, margins curved upwards. Flowers white or pink, the tube 9–14 mm long, hairy and with longer but less dense hairs on the persistent base. Heads 7–21 flowered. Bracts 4, 7–15 mm long, 3–9 mm wide, bluish or green, not fringed with hairs. Leaves and bracts without obvious **veins** parallel to and just inside the margins.

Intergrades with *Pimelea linifolia* subsp. *linifolia*.

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

Rare Vic.

subsp. collina: Shrub to 1.2 m high. Leaves 0.3–2.6 cm long, 0.5–4 mm wide, both sides the same colour, margins curved upwards. Flowers white, pink, or yellow, the tube 7–12 mm long, usually **silky**. Heads 2–50 flowered. Bracts 4, 4–16 mm long, 1.5–6 mm wide or rarely somewhat larger, hairless outside, hairless or partially hairy inside. Leaves and bracts sometimes with obviously raised veins parallel to and just inside the margins, prominent at least on lower surface of the leaves.

subsp. linifolia: **Erect**, prostrate or occasionally clump-forming shrub to 1.5 m high. Leaves 0.4–3 cm long, 1–9 mm wide, green, usually paler beneath, margins curved upwards, rarely curved down. Flowers white, pink or very rarely yellow, the tube 10–16 mm long, hairy with short hairs with longer hairs on the persistent base, heads 7–44 flowered. Bracts 4, rarely more, 4–19 mm long, 3–11 mm wide, often with a reddish tinge. Leaves and bracts without obviously raised veins parallel to and just inside the margins.

Intergrades with *Pimelea linifolia* subsp. *caesia*.

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

subsp. linoides: Luxuriant shrub to 2.5 m high. Leaves 0.4–4 cm long, 1–7 mm wide, green, often with a reddish tinge, paler below, margins curved down. Flowers white, the tube 10–14 mm long, heads 28–60 flowered. Bracts 4, mostly 10–16 mm long, 3–10 mm wide, green, often with a reddish tinge. Leaves and bracts without obviously raised veins parallel to and just inside the margins.

Rare Vic.

PlantNET description of species and key to subspecies: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?>

[page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Pimelea~linifolia](#) (accessed 1 February, 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.



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This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:



Android edition



iOS edition