

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Photographer Jackie Miles



Seed cases and leaves. Photographer Don Wood, Huskisson



Trunk Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Robertson Nature Reserve, Robertson



Tree. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer G McEwin, Meadows, SA

## Common name

Sweet Pittosporum, Native Daphne, Mock Orange

## Family

Pittosporaceae

## Where found

**Forest, woodland**, grassy areas, roadsides, coastal areas, and along streams. Coast, ranges, and the eastern edge of the tablelands. An invasive weed in the Sydney area. Doubtfully naturalised in the ACT.

## Notes

**Shrub** or tree to 25 m high. Fruit at first fleshy, becoming dry before opening. Bark grey to brownish, smooth to rough and scaly or finely fissured and with vertical rows of pale **lenticels**. Younger stems hairless to hairy with **simple** and 2-branched hairs (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Leaves **alternating** up the stems or clustered at the ends of the branches in pseudo-**whorls**, 5–17 cm long, 15–50 mm wide, upper surface glossy, lower surface paler and dull, margins usually wavy or occasionally flat, tips pointed. Leaves aromatic when rubbed. Flowers bisexual but functionally unisexual with male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers fragrant, white to cream, 10–20 mm long, with a bell-shaped tube and 5 '**petals**' 10–18 mm long, curved backwards. Flowers in clusters of 4–5 flowers, the clusters close together. Flowers mainly Aug.–Oct. Fruit yellow, becoming orange and eventually brown, 8–16 mm long, opening by 2 **valves**. Seeds orange to red or red-brown, sticking together in a mass.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW. Always check native vegetation requirements before undertaking control of a weedy native plant.

Occasionally hybridises with *Pittosporum bicolor* in the Bega district and in Vic. Hybrid plants tend to have foliage with persistent hairs on lower surface like that of *Pittosporum bicolor*, flowers of *Pittosporum undulatum*, and fruits with orange seeds.

Possibly occasionally hybridises with *Pittosporum revolutum*.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Pittosporum-undulatum> (accessed 1 February, 2021)

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