

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering and seeding plant. Photographer Don Wood, Uriarra Crossing, Murrumbidgee River, ACT



Rosette. Australian Plant Image Index, photo from Ohio State Weed Lab archive, USA



Seed case. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer K Chamberlain, USA

Common name

Broadleaf dock

Family

Polygonaceae

Where found

Weed in disturbed sites and damp places, ditches, and beside creeks, drains etc. Mainly Sydney area and Blue Mountains. Occasionally elsewhere.

Notes

Introduced perennial herb to 1 m high. Leaves basal and **alternating** up the stems, with a **sheath** at the base of the stalk, bases **cordate**; margins flat or wavy. Basal leaves 12–30 cm long, 60–150 mm wide. Stem leaves alternating up the stems, reduced, relatively narrower than the basal leaves. Flowers small, with 6 '**petals**', in 15–40-flowered **whorls** mostly separated by about 1–10 cm, the lower whorls often **subtended** by a small leaf. **Inflorescence** often about half the height of the plant. Flowers mainly Dec.–Mar. Seed cases 1–3-toothed near the base, rarely almost **entire**, usually only 1 **valve** developing a rounded lump up to about one-third as long as the valve.

Can hybridise with *Rumex crispus*.

Rumex obtusifolius in PlantNET.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Rumex~obtusifolius> (accessed 18 March 2021)

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