

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower head, and buds showing bracts.  
Photographer Jackie Miles



Flowering plant. Photographer Jackie Miles



Young plant. Australian Plant Image Index,  
photographers Forest & Kim Starr, Hawaii, USA

## Common name

Fireweed

## Family

Asteraceae

## Where found

Suburban bushland, **woodland**, grassy areas, roadsides, disturbed sites, and coastal environs. Widespread. No records from Kosciuszko National Park. Occasional on the tablelands and Western Slopes. Doubtfully **naturalised** in the ACT.

Sightings in the ACT should be reported to Canberra Connect phone 132281 or **fireweed@act.gov.au** giving the exact location and a photo if possible, and saying what you have done. You can also download the Canberra Nature Map app from **<http://canberranaturemap.org/>** and record a sighting on your phone. This will be forwarded to the appropriate departmental officers.

## Notes

**Introduced annual, biennial**, or short-lived **perennial** herb, or **shrub**, to 0.7 m tall. Stems hairless or sparsely hairy. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 2-12 cm long, 3-25 mm wide, hairless to sparsely hairy, margins **entire** to toothed, or **dissected** and toothed with 1 or 2 **segments** per side. Uppermost leaves sometimes with toothed basal lobes. Flower **heads** with 12-15 yellow '**petals**' each 5-14 mm long, and yellow centres 3-5 mm in diameter. Flower heads behind the '**petals**' narrow bell-shaped, surrounded by 19-21 **appressed bracts**. Flower heads in loose clusters of 2-20 long stalked flower heads. Flowers most of the year.

A Weed of National Significance. General Biosecurity Duty with additional restrictions all NSW. Pest plant ACT. Noxious weed Vic.

PlantNET description: **<http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?>**  
**[page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Senecio~madagascariensis](http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Senecio~madagascariensis)** (accessed 6 February, 2021)

---

*Author: Betty Wood.*



*Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia (CC BY)*

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



*Android edition*



*iOS edition*