

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Mullumbirby Heritage Garden, Mullumbirby



Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Mullumbirby Heritage Garden, Mullumbirby



Fruit on stem. Photographer P Acevedo, Cuba. © Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Department of Botany.

## Common name

Devil's Apple

## Family

Solanaceae

## Where found

**Forest** margins, disturbed areas in clearings, and along creeklines. Sydney area and Blue Mountains. Rarely elsewhere.

## Notes

**Introduced annual** or short-lived **perennial shrub** to 1 m high. Prickles yellowish, scattered on most parts. Fruit fleshy, becoming dryish at maturity. Young stems densely hairy, becoming sparsely hairy and slightly sticky. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 4-16 cm long, 50-150 mm wide, both surfaces green and sparsely hairy, margins coarsely toothed or shallowly to deeply lobed. Flowers bisexual and male, white, 15-35 mm in diameter, star-shaped with 5 deeply **incised** lobes. Flowers in 1-5-flowered clusters. Flowering: spring-summer. Fruit bright orange-scarlet, the base enclosed in the prickly **calyx**, 20-45 mm in diameter.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lv=sp&name=Solanum-capsicaoides> (accessed 7 February, 2021)

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