

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



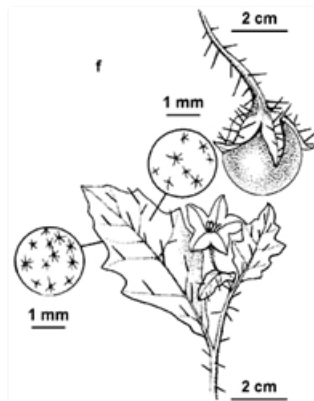
Flowering branches with green fruit. Photographer Don Wood, west of Cobargo



Fruit and leaves. Photographer Jackie Miles



Plant. Photographer Claire Cooper, Brogo, north of Bega



Line drawings. f. flowering branch; fruit; leaf surface detail. MMBir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

## Common name

Eastern nightshade, Jagged nightshade

## Family

Solanaceae

## Where found

**Forest**, disturbed sites, and along streams. Coast and ranges.

## Notes

**Annual** or short-lived **perennial** herb or **shrub** to 1.5 m high, sprawling. Prickles to 10 mm long, often purplish black, sparsely scattered on stems, leaves, leaf stalks, flower stalks, and **calyces**. Fruit fleshy. Stems **stellate**-hairy (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 3–8 cm long, 20–40 mm wide, lobed, the lobes bluntly triangular; upper surface dark green and sparsely stellate hairy, lower surface paler and more densely stellate hairy. Flowers mauve to purple, 15–20 mm in diameter, with a short tube and 5 **spreading** lobes, to bell-shaped with 5 lobes, in clusters of 1–3 flowers. Flowering: chiefly spring–autumn. Fruit marbled green turning yellow when ripe, round, 25–30 mm in diameter, base enclosed in the prickly **calyx**.

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

Author: Betty Wood.

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



Android edition



iOS edition

Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia (CC BY)