

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves (subsp. *canescens*).
Photographer Don Wood, Scotia Sanctuary, western
NSW



Leaves and seed cases (subsp. *canescens*).
Photographer David Poynter, Friends of Whyalla
Conservation Park, SA



Bark (subsp. *canescens*). Photographer Don Wood,
Scotia Sanctuary, western NSW



Tree (subsp. *canescens*). Photographer Don Wood,
Scotia Sanctuary, western NSW

Common name

Western Rosewood; Bonaree; Cattle Bush

Family

Sapindaceae

Where found

Variety of vegetation communities. Western Slopes.

Notes

Tree or **shrub** to 9 m tall. Seeds with fleshy **arils**. Suckers readily, particularly if the roots are damaged. Bark rough, deeply fissured. Branchlets white, **silky**. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 3-15 cm long, 4-22 mm wide, tips blunt or pointed, with a straight **mucro**. Flowers cream to green, **calyx** 1.5–2.5 mm long, cup-shaped with 5-10 broad teeth at the top, and 0 **petals**. Flowers in clusters of 1-53 or more flowers. Seeds black, with red arils. Flowers and fruits Sep.–Feb.

subsp. *canescens*: Leaves mostly 5–9 cm long, 4–16 mm wide, greyish, leaf stalks 2–16 mm long. Seed cases, calyx, and leaves usually densely hairy. Stalks of individual flowers 5–14 mm long. Flowers usually in 1–9-flowered clusters. Seed case lobes compressed, hairy.

subsp. *elongatus*: Leaves mostly 6–15 cm long, 4–10 mm wide, green, leaf stalks 5–15 mm long. Seed cases, calyx, and leaves hairless or hairy with fine hairs. Stalks of individual flowers 1.5–5 mm long. Flowers in 5–53 or more flowered clusters. Seed case lobes globular, hairless.

PlantNET description of species and key to subspecies: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Alectryon~oleifolius> (accessed 2 January, 2021)

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