

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Bungonia



Flowers and leaves. Photographer Don Wood, Mt Gulaga near Bermagui



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, Australian Tropical Rainforest key

## Common name

Variable Mistletoe

## Family

Loranthaceae

## Where found

**Forest** and **woodland**. Commonly parasitic on wattles and casuarinas, but also frequent on other mistletoes and exotic trees. Coast and ranges.

## Notes

**Erect** or **spreading** mistletoe, stems to about 0.7 m long. Plants attached to the host by a bulbous union. **External runners** absent. Fruit fleshy, sticky. Young stems hairy with short brown or white hairs, the plants otherwise hairless. Leaves opposite or nearly opposite each other or in **whorls**, 4–11 cm long, 10–55 mm wide, thick and leathery. Flowers green or yellow, reddish at the base, 15–35 mm long, tubular in bud, the 4–5 **petals** separating from each other fully when the flowers are fully open. Yellow to red **stamens**. Flowers in 3-s (triads), the central flower stalkless, **lateral** flowers stalked. Triads in clusters of 3–5. Ripe fruit yellow, elliptical to round, 7–9 mm long.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Amyema-congener> (accessed 3 January, 2021)

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