

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Coolangubra State Forest near Bombala



Flowering plant. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer CG Wilson, Kangaroo Island, SA



Rosettes. Photographer RTaylor, Victor Harbour, SA

Common name

Winged slender thistle, Slender thistle

Family

Asteraceae

Where found

Grassy areas, roadsides and disturbed sites. Western Slopes, tablelands, and the ACT. Sporadic elsewhere.

Notes

Introduced annual herb to 1.6m tall. Spiny leaf margins, stems, and flower bases. Stems somewhat hairy to hairless, **winged**, the **wings** continuous, with spiny lobes, to 10 mm wide. Basal leaves 5-20 cm long, 20-80 mm wide, upper surface green and hairy, lower surface white and **cobwebby**, leaves deeply divided, margins spiny. Stem leaves similar but smaller, **alternating** up the stems, 5-15 cm long, 20-60 mm wide, hairy, deeply **dissected** into spiny lobes, stem-clasping, the bases continuing down the stems as wings. Flower **heads** green, cylindrical, about 15-20 mm long, with many pink or purple **florets** 10-14 mm long, 0 **petals**, in dense clusters of 3-10 flower heads. Flowers Spring to Summer.

,Pest plant ACT. Noxious weed Vic.

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

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