

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems with male flowers. Photographer Don Wood, Cotter River, ACT



Flowering stems with female flowers. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Mt Ainslie, Canberra



Stems with spent flowers. Photographer Michael Bedingfield, Canberra, ACT



Leafy stems with fluffy seeds. Photographer Michael Bedingfield, Canberra, ACT



Flowering plant. Photographer Michael Sim, Canberra, ACT

Common name

Small-leaved clematis, Old man's beard, Clematis, Narrow-leaved clematis

Family

Ranunculaceae

Where found

Forest, woodland, rocky areas, and along streams. Tablelands, ACT, the mountains to the west, and Kosciuszko National Park.

Notes

Woody or **perennial** climber to about 5 m high, or trailing. Young stems sparsely hairy, soon becoming hairless. Leaves opposite each other, 5-15 cm long, **compound**, divided into 3's two or three times, or occasionally a few leaves **entire**; **terminal** leaflets 0.2–2.5 cm long, 1–3 mm wide, margins sometimes with 1 or 2 basal lobes but lacking teeth, tips usually blunt, leaf stalks often twining or twisting. Male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers with 4 petal-like **sepals** to 20 mm long, pale yellow or greenish cream to

creamy-white, sometimes with a pinkish blush, in few to many-flowered clusters.

Was *Clematis microphylla* var. *leptophylla*.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

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

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