

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers. Photographer John Tann, Royal National Park, Sydney



Flowering stem. Photographer Don Wood, Vincentia



Flowering plant. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Shoalhaven River near Tarago

## Common name

Variable Smoke-bush, Yew-leaf Smoke Bush, Paint Brush

## Family

Proteaceae

## Where found

**forest**, **woodland**, and **heath**. Coast and ranges. Tablelands north from the Captains Flat district.

## Notes

**Shrub** to about 1 m tall. Stems hairy, becoming hairless. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, crowded, 0.5–3 cm long, 1–3 mm wide, usually twisted, hairless, tips pointed or with a more or less stiff bristle-like tip. Flowers cream to white, 6–7 mm long, tubular at the base, splitting about two-thirds of the way up; with 4 lobes. Flowers in dense branched clusters. Flowers Spring to Summer.

Intergrades with *Conospermum ericifolium* where populations overlap. Most of the plants in the higher Blue Mountains are **intermediate** between the two species.

Intergrades with *Conospermum ellipticum* where populations overlap. Hybridises frequently with *Conospermum longifolium* and *Conospermum tenuifolium*.

Vulnerable Vic.

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

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