

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Mt Ainslie, Canberra, ACT



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Paul Hadobas, between Bungendore and Braidwood



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Morton National Park



Shrub. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Mt Ainslie, Canberra, ACT

Common name

Bitter cryptandra, Pretty cryptandra, Sweet cryptandra

Family

Rhamnaceae

Where found

Forest, **woodland**, and **heath**. Widespread.

Notes

Shrub to 1 m high or nearly **prostrate**. Branchlets hairy with fine **stellate** hairs (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see), often with spiny tips. Leaves **alternating** up the stems or clustered, 0.2–0.6 cm long, 1–3 mm wide, more or less cylindrical to flat, both surfaces hairless or sometimes lower surface hairy, margins flat or curved down. Sometimes leafless. Flowers 2–6 mm long, white, sometimes turning red with age, tubular, with 5 lobes. **Bracts** at the base of the flower tube short, brown. Flowers usually crowded at the ends of the branchlets, single or in clusters of 2–10 flowers. Flowers Autumn to Spring.

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=Cryptandra-amara> (accessed 13 April 2021)

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