

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems (var. *onosmiflora*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer unknown, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Flowering stem (var. *purpurascens*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Flowering plant (var. *purpurascens*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Flowering plant (var. *onosmiflora*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer unknown, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT

## Common name

A heath

## Family

Ericaceae

## Where found

Dry **forest**, **heath**, **shrubland**, and near streams and swamps.

var. *purpurascens*: Gosford and Greater Sydney area and south to west of Wollongong.

var. *onosmiflora*: Blue Mountains and south to the mountains west of Wollongong.

## Notes

**Shrub** to 1.8 m high. Leaves with sharply pointed tips. Older stems with prominent short, broad, leaf scars. Branchlets densely hairy. Leaves scattered or overlapping, 0.7–2.1 cm long, 4.4–9 mm wide, bases rounded or **cordate**, margins **entire** or fringed with long hair-like processes towards the leaf bases; **blades** thin, concave. Flowers white, sometimes pinkish, usually 7–10 mm in diameter, tubular, the tube 4.3–7.7 mm long, with 5 **spreading** lobes. No hairs on the inside of the flowers. Flowers along much of the branchlets. Flowering: July–September on the coast, mainly October–November on the tablelands.

**var. purpurascens**: Leaf tips ending in a bristle, the bristle to 1.4 mm long, leaf margins entire, leaf stalks hairless. Flower tube shorter than to as long as the **sepals**, 4.3–6 mm long, lobes each 4.6–5 mm long; **style** 5.5–6.8 mm long.

Vulnerable NSW. Provisions of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 No 63 relating to the protection of protected plants generally also apply to plants that are a threatened species.

NSW Threatened Species profile: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedSpeciesApp/profile.aspx?id=10273> (accessed 5 January, 2021)

**var. onosmiflora**: Leaf tips 1–2.2 mm long, margins fringed at least towards the base; leaf stalks very hairy. Flower tube longer than the sepals, 6.2–7.7 mm long, lobes each 3.6–4 mm long; style 7.7–8 mm long.

Family was Epacridaceae.

PlantNET description of species and key to varieties: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Epacris~purpurascens> (accessed 5 January, 2021)

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