

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering plant. Photographer Don Wood, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve, ACT



Flowers and young seed cases. Photographer Russell Best, near Sunbury, Vic



Line drawing. o. plant. E Mayfield, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Narrow-leaved willow-herb, Hairy willow-herb

Family

Onagraceae

Where found

Forest, woodland, moist grassy areas, disturbed sites, and swamps. Widespread.

Notes

Perennial herb to 1.4 m tall, often woody near the base. Stems very hairy, sticky in the flowering region. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, or a few near the base of the plant opposite each other, 1.5-8 cm long, 2-10 mm wide, hairy, greyish at least when young, margins with minute teeth in the upper half of the leaf or only near the rounded tip, and sometimes wavy. Flowers with a **floral tube**, and 4 purplish pink or white **petals** each 3-8 mm long. Flowers with a conspicuous ring of long hairs inside the floral tube. Flowers single. Flowers Spring to Summer. Seed cases 3.5-6 cm long, densely hairy, with a mixture of long **spreading** hairs and short **glandular** hairs; on stalks 6-15 mm long

Definite identification of *Epilobium* species requires microscopic examination of the seeds.

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=Epilobium-hirtigerum> (accessed 12 January, 2021)

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