

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering plant. Photographer Don Wood, Endeavour Reserve, Bombala



Flowering and seeding stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer J McAuliffe, Kosciuszko National Park



Line drawing. Plant; flower head. E Mayfield, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Star cudweed, Common cudweed

Family

Asteraceae

Where found

Forest, woodland, gardens, disturbed ground, and moist and swampy sites. Widespread.

Notes

Perennial or **biennial** herb to 0.80 m high. Stems hairy. Basal leaves 6–20 cm long, 3–11 mm wide, withered before flowering. Stem leaves **alternating** up the stems, 3–20 cm long, 2.5–10 mm wide, tips pointed, base slightly stem-clasping, margins **entire** and often curved down, **midvein** distinct, upper surface green and hairless, lower surface with a silvery **tomentum**. Bracts **appressed** to the individual flower **heads** pale brown and dry and membranous at the top, green at the base, and red to purple in between. Outer **florets** purple, inner florets purple or colourless. Flower heads bell-shaped or cup-shaped, 1–3.5 mm in diameter, 3–4 times as long as broad, in a dense cluster 10–25 mm in diameter of more than 20 heads. Flower cluster at the top of the stem, surrounded by 3–6 or more leafy **bracts** much longer than the heads. Often smaller clusters at the base of the upper leaves. Flowering: throughout the year.

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=Euchiton~involucratu> (accessed 22 January, 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.



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