

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower heads. Photographer Mke Sim, Canberra



Plants. Photographer Mke Sim, Canberra



Developing seed cases. Photographer Mke Sim, Canberra

Common name

Egg-leaf Spurge

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Where found

Garden **escape**. Sydney area, Blue Mountains, ACT, and Western Slopes. Occasionally elsewhere.

Notes

Introduced shrub or woody **perennial** herb to about 1 m high. Stems produce a milky exudate when cut or broken. Stems covered in soft hairs. Leaves on the lower parts of the stems **alternating** up the stems, 2–7 cm long, 6–22 mm wide, hairless, tips blunt to rounded, margins finely toothed on the upper half of the blade, **entire** in the lower half. Stems divided into 4 or 5 flowering branches with a **whorl** of stalkless leaves at the base, usually shorter and broader than the lower leaves. Leaves just below the flower clusters similar to the lower leaves, mostly 0.8–2 cm long. Male and female flowers on the same plant. Flowers tiny, with 0 **petals**, in mixed clusters that look like a single flower, of several male flowers and one female flower. **Glands** surrounding the flower clusters without appendages. Individual flower clusters single above pairs of leaf-like **bracts**. Flowering: Spring–Autumn. Seed cases about 3.5 mm long, warty.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Euphorbia-oblongata> (accessed 16 April 2021)

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