

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers (subsp. *collina*). Photographer Richard Hartland, Anglesea, Vic



Flowers (subsp. *diversicolor*). Photographer Russell Best, Kosciuszko National Park



Flowering plants (subsp. *glacialis*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Colin Totterdell, Kosciuszko National Park



Flowers (subsp. *paludosa*) Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Joe McAuliffe, Namadgi National Park



Flowering plants (subsp. *paludosa*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Kosciuszko National Park

## Common name

Eyebright, Snow Eyebright (subsp. *glacialis*), Variable Eyebright, Purple Eyebright (subsp. *diversicolor*), Feldmark Eyebright (subsp. *lapidosa*), Purple Eyebright (subsp. *speciosa*)

## Family

Orobanchaceae

## Where found

subsp. *collina*: Dry **forest, woodland, heath**, and swamps. Coastal south of Eden. Rarely elsewhere.

subsp. *diversicolor*: Woodland, heath, alpine **herbfields**, and drier sites in **grassland**. Kosciuszko National Park to ACT.

subsp. *glacialis*: Wet areas and depressions in alpine grassland and herbfields. Kosciuszko National Park.

subsp. *lapidosa*: Very low **shrubland** in alpine **feldmark** on windswept ridges between the Kosciusko area to Charlotte Pass and Geehi.

subsp. *paludosa*: Forest, woodland, heath, herbfields, and grassland. Sometimes in grassy areas in bogs and swamps. Kosciuszko National Park to ACT. Ranges and the eastern edge of the tablelands north from the Blue Mountains.

subsp. *speciosa*: Forest, woodland, and swampy areas. North of Batemans Bay: coast, ranges, and tablelands. ACT.

## Notes

Perennial herb or **shrub** to 0.80 m high, sometimes sprawling. Stems hairy to hairless, sometimes sticky. Leaves opposite or almost opposite each other, sometimes crowded, 0.45-2.5 cm long, 2-10 mm wide, lower surface covered with stalkless **glands**, margins with 1-6 pairs of teeth. Flowers tubular, 2-lipped, the upper lip 2 lobed, the lower lip 3 lobed. Flowers 9-20 mm long, white to purple, mauve, blue or pink, sometimes with a yellow blotch in the throat, lacking conspicuous purple **striations**. Outer surface of the **calyx** hairless or sticky hairy. Flower clusters of variable size. Flowering: most of the year.

Family was Scrophulariaceae.

**subsp. collina**: Shrub or **perennial** herb to 0.8 m high. Stems hairy with 2 or 4 longitudinal lines of **simple** hairs, or sometimes hairless. Leaves 0.45-1.65 cm long; uppermost leaves usually 2.0-4.2 mm wide, usually with only 1 pair of teeth. Flowers 7.5-13.5 mm long, white or mauve, pink, purple or blue with a white tube, throat or extremities often with a yellow spot behind the lowest lobe. Lower lobes usually notched to squared off, rarely blunt. Outer surface of the calyx sticky hairy. Flowers Aug-Feb.

**subsp. diversicolor**: Perennial herb to 0.45 m high. Stems sticky hairy or hairy. Leaves 0.5-1.7 cm long; uppermost leaves usually 3.4-7 mm wide, with 1-9 pairs of teeth. Flowers 9-13.5 mm long, white, pink, mauve, or pale to dark blue to purple or violet, sometimes a with white area behind the lower lobes, a yellow blotch often present in the throat. Lower lobes usually blunt to squared off, sometimes notched. Outer surface of the calyx sticky hairy. Flowers single in the **axils** of leafy **bracts**, in short dense clusters. Larger than *subps. glacialis* and on drier sites. Flowers Jan-Feb.

Vulnerable Vic.

**subsp. glacialis**: Perennial herb about to 0.3 m high, usually with short non-flowering shoots at the base. Stems almost hairless or with inconspicuous lines of hairs, sticky towards the tops of the stems. Leaves mostly opposite each other, those on non-flowering stems and towards the base of flowering stems crowded, 0.5-1.2 cm long, 5-10 mm wide, margins with 2-5 pairs of teeth. Flowers 11-16 mm long, 10-20 mm wide, the tube white with a yellow blotch in the throat, lobes white or purplish to pink. Buds and young flowers sometimes faintly tinged with pale violet on the outside. **Anthers** 1.4-2.6 mm long. Outer surface of the calyx sticky hairy. Flowers single in the axils of leafy bracts, in short dense clusters. Smaller than *subps. diversicolor* and on wetter sites. Flowers Dec-Mar.

**subsp. lapidosa**: Perennial herb to 0.15 m high, often sprawling. Stems sticky hairy. Leaves crowded, 0.65-1.05 cm long, 4.5-7 mm wide, with usually 2 or 3 pairs of teeth. Flowers 7.5-13 mm long, lilac to mauve-pink, the tube white with a yellow blotch in the throat. Outer surface of the calyx sticky hairy. Flowers Dec-Feb.

**subsp. paludosa**: Perennial herb to 0.56 m high. Base of the plant usually hairy with simple hairs, rarely **glandular**. Leaves 0.5-2.5 cm long, 5-9 mm wide, with 1-6 pairs of teeth. Flowers 10-20 mm long. Tube pale, pale purple or bluish purple, often with a conspicuous yellow patch in the throat, lobes white, pink, mauve, bluish-purple, or pinkish-purple. Lower lobes usually blunt to squared off, sometimes notched. Outer surface of the calyx hairless or sticky to sticky hairy. Flowers Aug-Mar.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

**subsp. speciosa**: Perennial herb to 0.5 m high. Stems hairy with 2 or 4 longitudinal lines of simple hairs, with glandular hairs between the longitudinal lines. Leaves 0.48-1.7 cm long, 3-8 mm wide, with 2-8 pairs of teeth. Flowers 11-18 mm long, bluish to purple or violet, throat and tube without a yellow blotch. Lower lobes usually blunt to squared off, sometimes notched. Anthers 1.3-2.2 mm long. Outer surface of the calyx sticky hairy. Flowers Aug-Dec.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

Presumed extinct Vic.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lv=sp&name=Euphrasia-collina> (accessed 22 January, 2021)

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