

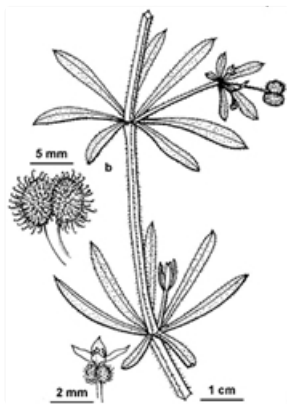
Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographers RJ & FG Richardson, Fyassford, Vic



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, west of Bodalla



Line drawings. b. flowering and seeding branch; flower; 'seed'. M Mair, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Goose grass, Cleavers

Family

Rubiaceae

Where found

Forest, woodland, grassy areas, gardens, disturbed sites, and moist areas. Widespread. Rare on the tablelands south of the Hume Highway and Kosciuszko National Park.

Notes

Introduced annual herb, sprawling, **scrambling** or twining, stems to 2m long. Stems 4-angled, with backward-pointing tiny prickles on the stems, making them rough. Leaves and 'seeds' covered with hooked hairs. 'Seeds', leaf margins, and stems stick to clothing. Leaves and leaf-like **stipules** in **whorls** of 6-9, 1-8 cm long, 2-10 mm wide, bristly with scattered hooked hairs, margins slightly curved down, tips blunt with a short point. Flowers 1-2 mm in diameter, with 4 white **petals** fused together near their bases, in clusters of 1-7 flowers. Flowers Winter to Summer. 'Seeds' 3–5 mm long, densely covered with hooked hairs.

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

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