

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer Russell Best, Wilsons Promontory, Vic



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens north of Mbruya



Line drawings (as *Galium propinquum*). a. seedling branch; 'seed'. MMbir © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic

Common name

A bedstraw

Family

Rubiaceae

Where found

Forest, **woodland**, and **grassland**. Widespread. No records from the Western Slopes in the area covered by this key.

Notes

Perennial herb, **prostrate** to sprawling, often extensively **rhizomatous**. Stems mostly to 0.4 m long, 0.5 mm in diameter, with slender angles, sparsely hairy to hairless. Leaves and leaf-like **stipules** in **whorls** of 4, 0.2–1.5 cm long, 1–5 mm wide, upper surface usually with scattered flattened clear triangular prickles, lower surface hairless or with a few flattened clear triangular prickles along the **midrib**, margins flat or narrowly curved down; tips pointed. Flowers 1–1.5 mm in diameter, greenish or greenish cream, with 4 **petals** joined together near their bases, in clusters of 1–6 flowers. Flowering: spring–summer. 'Seeds' 0.8–1.2 mm long, sparsely hairy to hairless, not or hardly wrinkled, dark brown.

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=Galium~leiocarpum> (accessed 17 January, 2021)

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This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:



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