

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Photographer Lisa Bennett, Minnesota, USA



Flowering plant. Photographer K Harris, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic



Line drawings. USDA NRCS PLANTS Database. Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions*. Vol. 3: 265.

Common name

Marsh Bedstraw

Family

Rubiaceae

Where found

Near streams and lakes, and in and near swamps. Southern Highlands, and east and south to Robertson and Fitzroy Falls Reservoir. One record near Bombala.

Notes

Introduced annual herb to 1.5 m high, **erect** or climbing. Stems robust at the base becoming **wiry**, 4-angled, hairless, or rough with short backward pointing prickles. Leaves and leaf-like **stipules** in **whorls** of 4–6, 0.5–2 cm long, 1–4 mm wide, tips pointed to rounded, often with a colourless bristle, margins and **midrib** on both surfaces hairy. Stipules becoming conspicuously shorter than the leaves higher up the stems. Flowers white or tinged pink, with 4 **petals** fused together near their bases, 2–4.5 mm in diameter, in 5–15-flowered clusters. Flowers and seeds January–April. 'Seeds' 0.5–1.3 mm long, smooth to wrinkled when dry, finely warty.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Galium-palustre> (accessed 17 January, 2021)

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