

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering and fruiting branch (subsp. *decurrens*).
Photographer Don Wood, Aranda Bushland,
Canberra, ACT



Flowering and fruiting branch (subsp. *physocarpa*).
Photographer Don Wood, south of Eden



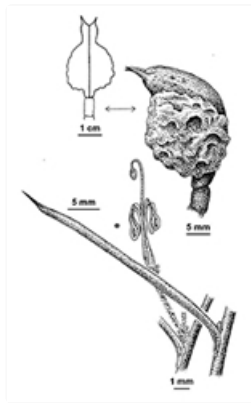
Young nut and leaves (subsp. *physocarpa*).
Photographer Linley McGlashan, Grampians National
Park, Vic



Flowering and fruiting branch (subsp. *platytenia*).
Photographer Don Wood, Nadgee Nature Reserve



Shrub ((subsp. *physocarpa*). Australian Plant Image
Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Grampians



Line drawings. e. leaf; flower; 'nut'. GRM Dashorst,
State Herbarium of South Australia, © 2021 Royal
Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic

Common name

Bushy Needlewood

Family

Proteaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, **woodland**, **heath**, and rocky sites. ACT. Widespread.

subsp. *decurrens*: Tablelands east and north from the ACT.

subsp. *physocarpa*: Coast and ranges south of Tathra. Rarely elsewhere.

subsp. *platytaenia*: Coastal south of Tathra.

Notes

Shrub or tree to 5 m high. Leaves with a sharp **mucro** about 1 mm long. New growth hairless to densely hairy, sometimes almost hairless. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 1.5–8 cm long, 0.7–1.6 mm in diameter, at about a right angle to the stem, cylindrical, lower surface grooved to varying extents, surfaces hairless or rapidly becoming hairless; tips pointed outward, with a mucro 1–3.5 mm long. Flowers pale cream, white, or sometimes tinged pink, with 4 '**petals**' free from each other when the flowers are fully open, hairless. **Gynoecium** 8–12.2 mm long. Unit clusters of 1–6 flowers, often several clusters close together. Flowers May–September 'Nuts' more or less oval, 18–35 mm long, 10–36 mm wide, covered in discrete warts. Prominent **beak** with 2 horns. Seeds with one **wing**.

subsp. decurrens: Branchlets bright red to reddish brown, **appressed** hairy to hairy, quickly becoming hairless. 'Nuts' 14–19 mm wide. On the inner face the inner pale wood zone 3.5–6 mm wide, the outer zone of red-brown wood mostly 1–2.5 mm wide.

Regarded as indigenous/naturalised in the ACT. All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

subsp. physocarpa: Branchlets appressed hairy to hairy, usually quickly hairless, the hairs sometimes persisting to flowering. 'Nuts' 10–32.5 mm wide. On the inner face the pale wood zone 4.5–12 mm wide, the outer zone of red-brown wood 1–2.5 mm wide.

Note that the description in PlantNET (in the key to subspecies) of the width of the red-brown wood zone on the inner face of the nut (2.5–5.5 mm) has been transcribed incorrectly.

subsp. platytaenia: Branchlets hairy, the hairs persisting to well after flowering. 'Nut' 10–36 mm wide. Red-brown wood zone on the inner face of the 'nut' beside the seed cavity 3–5 mm wide at its widest point.

Rare Vic.

PlantNET description of species and key to subspecies: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvi=sp&name=Hakea~decurrens> (accessed 20 April 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.

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



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Android edition



iOS edition