

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem with 'nuts'. Photographer Don Wood, near Sussex Inlet



Open 'nut'. Photographer Jackie Miles, Nadgigonnar National Park north of Braidwood



Shrub. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT

Common name

Needlebush

Family

Proteaceae

Where found

Forest and **heath**. Coast and ranges mainly north of Bega.

Notes

Shrub to 4.5 m high. Leaf tips sharp. Young stems densely white-**woolly**, often becoming hairless with age. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, mostly 2–7 cm long, 0.7–1 mm in diameter, cylindrical, rigid, lower surface grooved, moderately **appressed-silky**, quickly becoming hairless; tips pointed outward, with a **mucro** 1–2 mm long. Flowers with 4 white or cream '**petals**' 2.5–5 mm long, free from each other when the flowers are fully open, hairless. **Gynoecium** 4.5–7.5 mm long. Unit clusters 1–7-flowered, often several clusters close together. Flowering: winter to spring. 'Nut' more or less round to oval, 20–40 mm long, 20–32 mm wide, finely or coarsely warty to deeply wrinkled, **beak** 3–4 mm long, more or less smooth. Seeds with one **wing**.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Hakea-sericea> (accessed 8 April 2021)

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