

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Burrier, west of Nowra



Flowering branches. Photographer Jackie Miles



Leafy stems with green and ripe fruit. Photographers Forest & Kim Starr, Hawaii.



Flowering shrub. Photographer Carlos Galindo-Leal, Nambia

## Common name

Lantana

## Family

Verbenaceae

## Where found

**Forest, woodland**, forestry plantations, grassy areas, disturbed sites, old habitations, coastal environs, roadsides, and near streams. Forms dense thickets. Coastal. Ranges north from west of Nowra.

## Notes

**Shrub** to 4 m high, sometimes a woody climber to 15 m high. Fruit fleshy. Young stems square in cross section, usually prickly, sparsely to moderately hairy, sometimes bristly, often sticky. As they mature the stems become rounded and turn grey or brown. Leaves strongly aromatic when rubbed, opposite each other, 5-20 cm long, 15-70 mm wide, moderately wrinkled, margins scalloped to toothed with 15-40 teeth per side, surfaces rough, hairy with sharp **appressed** rigid bristly hairs, upper surface dull green, sparsely to moderately hairy, lower surface slightly lighter or duller green, the hairs scattered to moderately dense on the **veins**, sometimes also with scattered short **erect** thread-like hairs on the veins, tips gradually tapering to a point, bases often **cordate**. Flowers usually yellow, orange, red, white, cream, or pink or mauve to deep reddish-purple, or multi-coloured, the throat often yellow, 4-10 mm in diameter, tubular, the tube 7-14 mm long, with 4-5 lobes. Flower clusters hemispherical, of about 20-40 flowers, 2-4 cm diameter, at the bases of the leaves. Fruit black, blue-black, or purplish-black, glossy, 5-8 mm in diameter, clustered in **heads**. Flowers throughout the year.

Weed of National Significance. General Biosecurity Duty with additional restrictions all NSW. Pest plant ACT. Noxious weed Vic.

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

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