

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



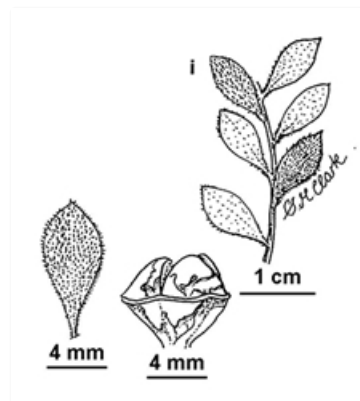
Flowering branch. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Tantangara Dam, Kosciuszko National Park



Flowering branches with nuts. Photographer Don Wood, Mongarlowe east of Braidwood



Shrub. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Tantangara Dam, Kosciuszko National Park



Line drawings. i. branchlet, leaf, nut. S.M. Clarke, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Myrtle tea-tree, Grey tea-tree, Swamp tea-tree

Family

Myrtaceae

Where found

Forest, woodland, paddocks, swamp margins, gullies, and occasionally along rocky streams. Widespread. Rare in coastal areas and on the Western Slopes.

Notes

Shrub to 3 m tall. Bark on smaller stems smooth, shedding in stringy strips, on larger stems rough, ultimately flaking in layers. Younger stems hairy, with a groove or narrow to thick flange below the bases of the leaf stalks. Leaves aromatic when rubbed, **alternating** up the stems, 0.4-1 cm long, 2-5 mm wide, thick, surfaces with **silky** hairs giving a grey-green appearance; sometimes hairless, **glands** prominent, margins flat to curved upwards, tips pointed to broadly rounded, and flat or curved down and folded upwards; bases tapering to a thick stalk less than 1 mm long. Flowers 7-11 mm in diameter, with 5 white **petals**, usually single, occasionally in pairs. Flowers Spring to Autumn. Nuts often long-persisting, usually 4-6 mm in diameter, the surface lifting, later gnarled.

Hybridises with *Leptospermum continentale*.

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=Leptospermum-myrtifolium> (accessed 22 January, 2021)

Additional information in: Thompson, J. (8 December 1989), A revision of the genus *Leptospermum* (Myrtaceae). *Telopea* 3(3): 409-411, map 8-53

Author: Betty Wood.



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