

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



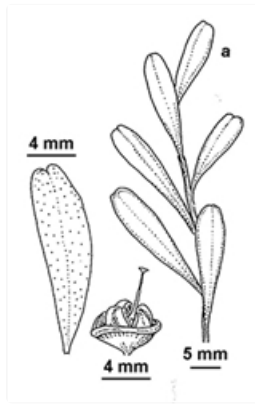
Flowering branches with nuts. Photographer Don Wood, Countengary east of Coorra



Flowering branches. Photographer Don Wood, Naas River crossing, ACT



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



Line drawings. a. branchlet, leaf, nut. SM Clarke, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

River tea-tree, Creek tea-tree

Family

Myrtaceae

Where found

Swampy places and along streams; sometimes among rocks. Widespread. Rare in coastal areas.

Notes

Shrub to 3 m tall. Bark on smaller stems smooth, shedding in stringy strips, fibrous and rough on larger stems. Leaves with sharp tips. Younger stems hairy, with a conspicuous flange. Leaves aromatic when rubbed, **alternating** up the stems, 0.5-2 cm long, 2-8 mm wide or more, margins curved upwards, sometimes flat, surfaces mostly hairless, tips broad and rounded with a small notch and with a sharp point, sometimes blunt or pointed, bases long tapering to a short or negligible stalk. Flowers 8-12 mm in diameter, with 5 white **petals**, usually single, occasionally in pairs. Flowers Spring to Summer. Nuts persisting, 5-8 mm in diameter, surface ultimately shedding in papery flakes.

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-obovatum> (accessed 25 January, 2021)

Additional information in: Thompson, J. (8 December 1989), A revision of the genus *Leptospermum* (Myrtaceae). *Telopea* 3(3): 412-413, map 8-55

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