

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



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



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Common name

A tea-tree

Family

Myrtaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, **woodland**, and **heath** on rocky escarpments and in rocky gullies. Coast, ranges, and the eastern edge of the tablelands, north from Batemans Bay.

Notes

Shrub or tree to 5 m tall, often weeping. Bark rough, furrowed, flaking. Stems hairy. Leaves aromatic when rubbed, **alternating** up the stems, 1-2.5 cm long, 2-4 mm wide, flat, becoming hairless; tips blunt or tapering, point blunt; bases tapering to a slender stalk. Flowers 5-10 mm in diameter, with 5 white **petals**, usually single, occasionally in pairs. Flowers Spring to Summer. Nuts very readily shed but some persisting until the next flowering, about 3 mm in diameter.

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

Additional information in: Thompson, J. (8 December 1989), A revision of the genus *Leptospermum* (Myrtaceae). *Telopea* 3(3): 381-382, map 5-32

Author: Betty Wood.



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