

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



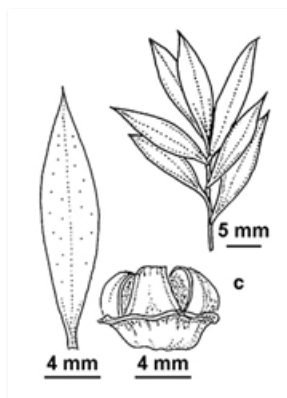
Flowering branches. Photographer Don Wood, Nadgee State Forest near Eden



Nuts. Photographer John Tann, Lune River, Tas



Shrub. Photographer Arthur Chapman, Tas



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

Common name

Manuka, Tea-tree

Family

Myrtaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, moist **heath**, and along streams, sometimes in rocky places. Coast and ranges south of Bega. Occasionally elsewhere.

Notes

Shrub to about 5 m tall, sometimes sprawling. Leaves with sharp tips. Bark on smaller stems smooth, shedding in stringy strips, on larger stems rough, rarely layered. Younger stems hairy, becoming hairless, with a narrow to broad flange near the bases of the leaf stalks. A conspicuous flange usually curving round the stem. Leaves aromatic when rubbed, **alternating** up the stems, about 0.7-2.2 cm long, usually 2-7 mm wide, mostly **spreading**, broadest about the middle, margins curved upwards, new growth silvery hairy; tips often pointed, bases usually tapering to a short often stout stalk which is sometimes more or less absent. Flowers usually 8-14 mm in diameter, with 5 white (rarely pink or red) **petals**, single, occasionally several flowers together. Flowers are produced on new growth. Flowers Spring to Autumn. Nuts persisting, 6-10 mm in diameter or more.

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

Additional information in: Thompson, J. (8 December 1989), A revision of the genus *Leptospermum* (Myrtaceae). *Telopea* 3(3): 415-417, map 8-58

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