Plants of South Eastern New South Wales

Flowers and leaves. Photographer David Francis, Macedon Ranges, Vic

Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Mongarlowe, south of Braidwood

Flowering shrub. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Kosciuszko National Park

Flower buds and leaves. Photographer Chris Clarke, Anglesea Heath, Vic

Common name

Common Beard-heath

Family

Ericaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, **woodland**, **heath**, and grassy areas. Widespread.

Notes

Shrub to 0.5 m high, often sprawling, often with many slender or **wiry** stems growing from a woody rootstock. Branchlets hairy when young, to almost hairless. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 0.2–2.5 cm long, 0.9–5 mm wide, hairless to hairy or rough, sometimes especially so on the margins, upper surface flattish to concave, tips with a long narrow point, blunt (ACT) or more or less sharp (Vic). Flowers white, often pink in bud, 4-7 mm in diameter, tubular, the tube 1.6–2.2 mm long, with 5 hairy lobes. Flowers **erect**, 3–7 together at or near the ends of the branchlets. Flowering: June–December.

Varieties not recognised in NSW.

Family was Epacridaceae.

in the ACT it is sprawling or **spreading** horizontally with the ends growing upwards, with often many slender stems from a woody rootstock; leaves are flattish to concave on the upper surface, hairy, sometimes especially so on the margins, with a long drawn out tip that ends in a small hard protrusion; flowers in a **spike** of 4-7 flowers at the ends of the branchlets. **https://canberra.naturemapr.org/Community/Sightings/Details/1946630** (RW Purdie) (accessed 19 April 2021)

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=Leucopogon~virgatus** (accessed 19 April 2021)

This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:

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