

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer David Francis, Macedon Ranges, Vic



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Namadji National Park, ACT

Common name

Tall lobelia

Family

Campanulaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, **woodland**, **heath**, and disturbed sites. Widespread.

Notes

Annual herb to 0.65 m high. Stems and leaves sometimes fleshy. Stems hairless, often reddish. Leaves few, **alternating** up the stems, 0.35–7 cm long, 0.2–4 mm wide, usually becoming smaller in size up the stem and often withered at flowering, margins **entire**. Flowers pale blue or mauve to deep violet, 10–20 mm long, tubular, the tube split almost to the base on the upper side, 2-lipped, the upper lip with 2 short lobes, the lower lip with 3 **spreading** lobes, the lower middle lobe the longest, 4–11 mm long, 1–3.5 mm wide. Flowers in one-sided, 2–10 flowered elongated clusters. Stalks on individual flowers about 10 mm long. Flowering: October–March.

The tall **annual** species of *Lobelia* are best distinguished by their seeds, beyond the scope of this key.

Family was Lobeliaceae.

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=Lobelia~gibbosa> (accessed 22 January, 2021)

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



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