

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



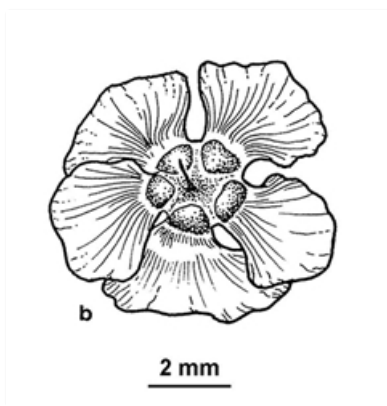
Seed cases on branches. Photographer Chris Clarke, Parr Scrub Reserve, Pinaroo, SA



Cancerous growths (three circled). Photographer Don Wood, Scotia Sanctuary, western NSW



Top of shrub. Photographer Don Wood, Scotia Sanctuary, western NSW



Line drawing. b. seed case. MMBir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Small-leaf Bluebush, Short-leaf Bluebush

Family

Chenopodiaceae

Where found

Colonising species. Many vegetation communities, often on seasonally wet, often saline, soils. Western Slopes.

Notes

Shrub or **perennial** herb to 1.5 m tall. Leaves fleshy. Stems **striate**, sparsely hairy to hairy. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 0.2-0.5 cm long, more or less cylindrical to flat, hairless. Flowers small, tubular, with 5 '**petals**', hairless, or the margins of the '**petals**' fringed. Flowers single, but crowded into leafy **spikes** at the ends of the branchlets. Seed cases white or pink, 6-9 mm in diameter, hairless, tubular, the tube about 2 mm in diameter, flat at the tips, thin-walled, hemispherical and weakly 10-ribbed below the **wings**. Horizontal wings 5, **spreading**, fan-shaped, papery. Often has spherical, hairy, cancerous structures about 2.5 cm diameter.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbg Syd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lv=sp&name=Maireana-brevifolia> (accessed 20 July, 2007)

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