

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Cotter River, ACT



Flowers, burr, and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Lake George



Burrs. Photographer Roger Spencer, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic

Common name

Burr medic

Family

Fabaceae

Where found

Grassy areas, disturbed sites, and roadsides. Mainly Sydney area south to Jervis Bay, ACT, the western parts of the high country, and the Western Slopes. Sporadic elsewhere.

Notes

Introduced annual herb, **prostrate** to **erect**, branches to 0.6 m long. Seed cases often spiny. Stems hairy or hairless. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, **compound**, with three leaflets each 0.5-3 cm long, 3–22 mm wide, hairless, sometimes sparsely hairy below, upper surface sometimes with darker flecks, margins toothed, tips blunt or notched, with a small straight point, **stipules** deeply **incised**, hairless or hairy on the lower surface. Flowers yellow, pea shaped, with 5 **petals**, 2 joined together to form the **keel**. **Standard** petal 3-5 mm long. Flowers in clusters of 1–10 flowers. Flowers mainly Aug.–Nov.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Medicago~polymorpha> (accessed 24 January, 2021)

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