

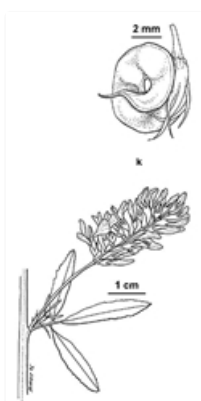
# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Canberra



Rods. Photographer Richard Old, Alberta Native Plants Society, Canada



Line drawings. k. seed case; flowering node. MMoir, M., National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board.

## Common name

Lucerne, Alfalfa

## Family

Fabaceae

## Where found

Grassy areas, roadsides, and disturbed sites. Mainly Sydney area and the ACT. Sporadic elsewhere.

## Notes

**Introduced perennial** herb to 1.2 m tall. Stems more or less hairy. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, **compound**, with 3 leaflets each 0.5-3 cm long, 3-15 mm wide, upper surface hairless or hairy, lower surface often hairy, margins toothed towards the tip, tips blunt, often with a straight point, **stipules entire**, hairy on lower surface. Flowers 6-15 mm long, pea shaped, with 5 **petals**, 2 joined together to form the **keel**, purple to violet, rarely pink to white or yellow. Flowers in 8-35 flowered clusters. Flowers mainly Sep.-May

***Medicago sativa* subsp. *sativa*** in Vic. (accessed 1 March 2021)

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Medicago~sativa> (accessed 1 March 2021)

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