

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



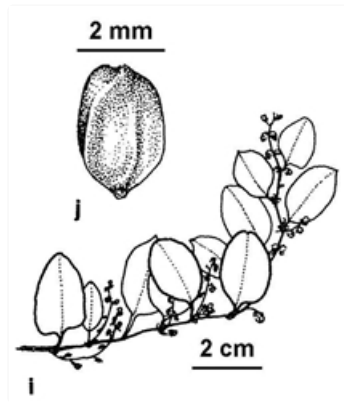
Flowering branch with male flowers. Photographer Richard Hartland, Point Cook, Vic



Flowering branch with female flowers. Photographer Richard Hartland, Wilsons Promontory, Vic



Flowering branch with male flowers. Photographer Don Wood, Ben Boyd National Park north of Eden



Line drawings. i. flowering branch; j. nut. MMBir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Climbing lignum

Family

Polygonaceae

Where found

Rainforest and **rainforest** margins, dunes, behind beaches, cliff tops, and along streams, and around swamps. Coastal, mainly south of Wallaga Lake near Bergamul.

Notes

Prostrate or twining low **shrub** with slender stems to about 2 m long or more (rarely a tangled, more or less **erect** shrub to about 0.6 m high). Flowers and fruit more or less fleshy. Stems **winged** to longitudinally **striate**, hairless, often reddish. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 1.5–7 cm long, 15–70 mm wide, often thick textured, hairless, often shining, tips blunt to rounded, bases **cordate** (occasionally squared off), margins usually finely frilly. Male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers white to yellow-green or reddish, with 5 '**petals**', each 2–3.5 mm long, free from each other almost to the base, female flowers elongating to 5 mm in fruit. Flower **spikes** 1–10 cm long. Flowers mostly Sep.–Jan. Nuts elliptical to oval, with 3 longitudinal ridges, sides more or less flat, sometimes concave, 2.7–3.0 mm long, smooth, brown to black.

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

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