

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem with male flower. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer A Lyne, Pine Island, Canberra, ACT



Flowering mat. Photographer Don Wood, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT

Common name

Tuggeranong lignum

Family

Polygonaceae

Where found

Shrubby woodland on a river bank among rocks and weeds. ACT along the Murrumbidgee River.

Notes

Shrub, sprawling, becoming a loosely tangled **wiry** mass to 1 m high, 1–2 m wide. Stems wiry, brown, weakly grooved. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, 0.5–1.3 cm long, 2–4 mm wide, not **glaucous**, often with the base expanded on one or both sides. Male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers cream with greenish tinges, 4–5 mm in diameter, with 5 '**petals**', free almost to the base, in clusters of 3–9 flowers mainly at the ends of the stems. Only one female plant ever found. It has not been seen for some years despite extensive searches. Flowers Spring to Summer.

Endangered Australia. Endangered ACT. 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=Muehlenbeckia~tuggeranong> (accessed 24 January, 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.

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