Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers, leaves, and fruit. Photographer Don Wood, Mumbulla State Forest north of Bega

Common name

Golden mistletoe

Family

Santalaceae

Where found

Mainly on other mistletoes. Coastal areas. Ranges inland from Batemans Bay.

Notes

Erect, spreading, or weeping **shrub** to 0.6 m diameter. Plants attached to the host by a bulbous union. **External runners** absent. Fruit fleshy. Stems covered in mostly bright golden, rarely greyish or silvery, branched hairs (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Leaves opposite or almost opposite each other, mostly 1–5 cm long, 10–20 mm wide, upper surface green and sometimes shining, lower surface densely hairy, yellow to golden, tips rounded, blunt, or pointed with a short blunt **mucro**. Male and female flowers on the same plant. Flowers yellowish, 1-2 mm long, with 4 '**petals**'. Flower sub-clusters usually in 3s, each sub-cluster of 5–11 flowers, the central 1–5 flowers usually male. Flowering: throughout the year. Fruit yellow, hairy, oval to almost round, 4.5-8 mm long.

Line drawings.a. flow ering branch; flow er cluster. E Mayfield, © 2021 Royal Botanic Cardens Board, Melbourne, Vic

Family Viscaceae in PlantNET.

Rare Vic.

PlantNET description: http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl? page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Notothixos~subaureus (accessed 20 April 2021)



This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:



Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia (CC BY)