

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer RGF Richardson, Little River, Vic?



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Plant. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer RGF Richardson, Little River, Vic?

## Common name

Tiger pear

## Family

Cactaceae

## Where found

In pest proportions in some areas. **Woodland**, pastures, fence-lines, roadsides and stream-banks. Coast and ranges north of Kiama.

## Notes

**Introduced** fleshy low-growing plant with more or less **prostrate** stems. It usually grows less than 0.40 m tall when unsupported, but can reach up to 2 m in height when growing against other plants. Spines on stem **segments**, flower bases, and fruit. Stem segments cylindrical to flattened cylindrical, with white, greyish, or brownish, spines in clusters of 1–7. Leaves falling early, 0.3–0.4 cm long, conical, spirally arranged. Flowers 20–60 mm in diameter, yellow, with many '**petals**'. Flowers mostly late spring and summer. Ripe fruit fleshy, spiny, red to purplish.

A Weed of National Significance. General Biosecurity Duty with additional restrictions all NSW. Pest plant ACT. Noxious weed Vic.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lv=sp&name=Opuntia~aurantiaca> (accessed 29 January, 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.

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



Android edition



iOS edition

Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia (CC BY)