

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering plant. Photographer Don Wood, Scotia Sanctuary, western NSW



Carpet. Photographer Kristy King, California, USA



Fleshy narrow rhizome and bulbils. Photographer Daniel Feliciano, Portugal



Line drawing. a. flowering plant. T Brosch, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Soursob

Family

Oxalidaceae

Where found

Woodland, grassy areas, gardens, roadsides, and along waterways. Coastal. Sydney area away from the coast. Occasionally elsewhere.

Notes

Introduced perennial herb to 0.45 m tall. The aboveground stems and leaves die back each year. Stem only developed when plants are crowded or shaded. Rhizome fleshy, white. **Bulbils** on the **rhizome** and at the base of the lower leaves. **Bulbs** oval, 8–30 mm long, pointed, pale brown. Flower stalks sparsely hairy. Leaves in a basal **rosette**, with three **bilobed** leaflets each 0.5–3 cm long, 3.5–44 mm wide, green, sometimes brown or purple-flecked above, hairless to sparsely hairy, margins hairy, tips rounded, 10–35 mm apart. **Stipules** membranous, narrow, to about 10 mm long, abruptly tapering into the leaf stalk. Flowers yellow, with 5 **petals** 15–25 mm long fused together at their bases, in clusters of 3–25 flowers. Flowers open only in sunny conditions. Seed cases not developed in Australia.

Noxious weed Vic.

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

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