

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



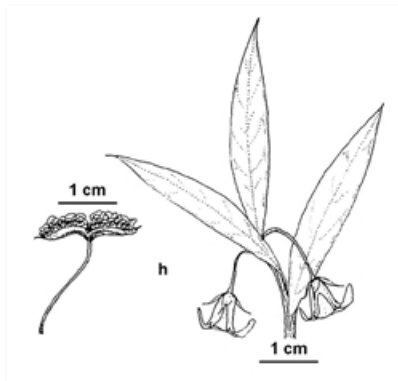
Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Wadbilliga National Park



Flowering stems. Photographer Richard Hartland, Tarra-Bulga National Park, Gippsland, Vic



Open seed cases and backs of leaves. Photographer Jackie Miles



Line drawings. National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Banyalla

Family

Pittosporaceae

Where found

Forest, shrubland, heath, and moist gullies. Ranges and tablelands south of the Kings Highway. Kosciuszko National Park.

Notes

Tree or **shrub** to 18 m high. Fruit at first fleshy but becoming dry when ripe. Bark smooth, with horizontal ridges from **lenticels**. Branchlets densely whitish hairy with 2-armed hairs with long **spreading** arms (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Older stems sparsely hairy. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, or rarely in **whorls** of 3-5, 2-9 cm long, 4-18 mm wide; upper surface dull dark green, sparsely hairy, becoming hairless, lower surface usually densely hairy with **appressed** grey or white hairs, rarely becoming hairless, margins **entire** and strongly curved down, tips almost pointed to blunt. Flowers bisexual but functionally unisexual with male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers fragrant, tubular, with 5 '**petals**', yellow internally, whitish with reddish or purple-maroon **veins** and/or markings externally, each 'petal' 8-13 mm long, curved back at the tips. **Sepals** usually maroon-tinged, finally turned back. Male flowers in clusters of 1-4 flowers, female flowers single or paired. Flowers mainly Aug.-Dec. Fruit yellowish, turning grey-black when ripe, round or almost round, hairy, 5-13 mm long, opening by 2 **valves**. Seeds few to many, red, sticking together in a mass.

Occasionally hybridises with *Pittosporum undulatum* in the Bega district and in Vic. Hybrid plants tend to have foliage with persistent hairs on the lower surface like that of *Pittosporum bicolor*, flowers of *Pittosporum undulatum*, and fruits with orange seeds.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Pittosporum-bicolor> (accessed 1 February, 2021)

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