

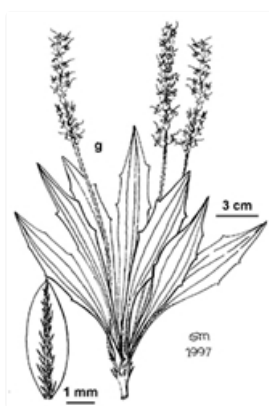
# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower head. Photographer Russell Best, Macedon Ranges, Vic



Plants. Photographer Don Wood, Canberra, ACT



Line drawing. g. plant; sepal. E Mayfield, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

## Common name

Variable plantain

## Family

Plantaginaceae

## Where found

**Forest, woodland**, and grassy areas. Widespread.

## Notes

**Perennial** herb with a persistent and often stout taproot. Flower stalks to 0.25 m high, hairy, not ridged. Leaves in a basal **rosette**, mostly 4-25 cm long, 5-25 mm wide, 5-10 times as long as wide, hairy, thin-textured, with 3-5 longitudinal **veins**, margins usually toothed with conspicuous teeth, tips pointed or blunt. Tufts of reddish brown hairs at the bases of the leaves. Flowers tubular, with 4 lobes each 1.5-2.3 mm long, **spreading** or curved down. **Sepals** 2.8-3.5 mm long. Sepal-like **bracts** just beneath the flowers 2.8-3.5 mm long, with hairy **keels**. Flowers in green to brown cylindrical **spikes** 30-150 mm long. Flowers most of the year.

Possibly intergrades with *Plantago antarctica* in the Brindabella Range, 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=nswwfl&lvl=sp&name=Plantago~varia> (accessed 1 February, 2021)

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