

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower, leaf, and young pods. Photographer Nimal G. Karunajeewa, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic



Flowering branch. Photographer Dane Wimbush, Bournda National Park, south of Tathra



Leafy branches c. open pods. Photographer Marc Freestone, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic

## Common name

A Flat Pea

## Family

Fabaceae

## Where found

Dry **forest** and **woodland**. Coast and ranges. One record from the tablelands just east of the ACT on the Monaro Highway.

## Notes

Shrub to about 2 m tall. Leaves opposite each other, leaves near the base of the **shrub** sometimes **alternating** up the stems. Leaves 2-6 cm long, 10-30 mm wide, bases never **cordate**, margins nearly flat to curved down; tips pointed to narrowly pointed, with an abrupt point to about 2 mm long, sometimes spine-like but not sharp, upper surface sometimes covered in minute warts, lower surface becoming hairless. Often no obvious junction between the leaf stalk and the leaf. Leaf stalks 1-4 mm long. **Calyx** 5-8 mm long. Standard petal 10-12 mm long. Flowers pea shaped, with 5 **petals**, 2 joined together to form the **keel**, yellow with red markings, the back of the **standard** petal purple-brown with narrow to broad yellow zones at the sides. The red-brown **bracteoles** (2.5-6 mm long) are 1-2 mm below the flower and may be hairy or hairless. The **bracts** (2.5-3.5 mm long) below the flower are hairless on the outside or with only a few midline hairs. Flowers in 1-3 flowered clusters. Flowers Spring.

Was *Platylobium formosum* subsp. *parvifolium*.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswf&lvl=sp&name=Platylobium~parviflorum> (accessed 22 January, 2021)

Description partly based on: Thompson, I.R., (2011) A revision of *Platylobium* (Fabaceae: Bossiaeeae). *Muelleria* 29(2): 163-164, Figs 1, 2, 3

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