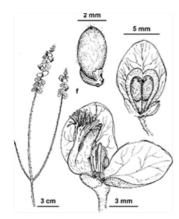
Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Photographer Jackie Mles



Flow ering stem. Photographer Don Wood, near Merimbula



Line drawings. f. flowering branch; flower; seed case with front 'wing' sepal removed; seed. T Brosch, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Broom Milkwort

Family

Polygalaceae

Where found

Woodland, grassy areas, roadsides, disturbed sites, coastal dunes, and wetlands. Coastal. Sydney area away from the coast.

Notes

Introduced shrub, usually to 3 m high. At least the lower branches more or less leafless and with knobbly scars from fallen leaves. Stems sparsely hairy. Leaves, when present, alternating up the stems, 0.8–5 cm long, 1–5 mm wide, sparsely hairy. Flowers purple to pale mauve or pink, with 3 petals in the middle of the flower, the largest looking like the keel of a pea flower, with 2 finely branched structures 4–5 mm long at its tip, and 2 coloured sepals that look like the wings of pea flower, each 10–15 mm long. Keel pink, with a darker blotch at the tip. Flowers in elongated clusters 4–15 cm long, often forming large branched clusters. Flowering: July–November

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

Author: Betty Wood.

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





