

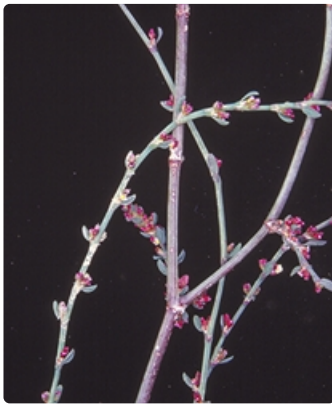
Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, ACT



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Tallaganda State Forest NE of Cooma



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Namadji National Park, ACT

Common name

Wireweed, Hogweed, Sand wireweed

Family

Polygonaceae

Where found

Disturbed sites and grassy areas. Mainly Sydney area and Canberra. Widespread elsewhere but not common.

Notes

Introduced annual or **biennial** herb, **prostrate** to sprawling, stems to 1 m long. Stems hairless. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, 0.5-3 cm long, 2-11 mm wide, hairless, with a **stipular sheath** at the base which soon disintegrates, margins sometimes wavy, rarely slightly curved down, tips pointed to blunt. Leaves all of similar size. Flowers 1.8-3 mm long, with 5 '**petals**' joined at the base, '**petals**' white or pink, sometimes red outside, in groups of 1-4 in the leaf **axils**, continuing along the stems. Flowers mostly summer.

Formerly confused with *Polygonum aviculare*.

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

Author: Betty Wood.

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



Android edition



iOS edition

Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia (CC BY)