

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer Mike Sim, Isaacs Ridge, Canberra ACT



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Scotia Sanctuary, western NSW



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Common name

Small knotweed

Family

Polygonaceae

Where found

Floodplains and temporarily moist sites. Sydney area and ACT. Occasionally tablelands and Western Slopes north and west of the ACT.

Notes

Annual herb, **prostrate** to sprawling, commonly mat-forming, often reddish-purple. Stems to 15 cm long, often rooting at the **nodes**, hairless. Young stems minutely warty along the narrow ridges. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, 0.3-2 cm long, 1-3.5 mm wide, flattish in cross section, hairless, covered with minute warts, with a **sheath** at the base, margins usually strongly curved down, tips with a straight point. Flowers 1.2–2.5 mm long, pink to white, with 5 '**petals**' joined at the base, in clusters of 2-5 flowers. Flowers most of year.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

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

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