

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering plants. Photographer Burt Wursten, Zimbabwe



Flowering stems. Photographer Isidro Martinez, Spain



Plant. Photographer Keir Morse, Oregon, USA

## Common name

Annual pearlwort

## Family

Caryophyllaceae

## Where found

Grassy areas, disturbed sites, stone- and brick-work, and along streams. Sydney area. ACT. Widespread elsewhere but not common.

## Notes

**Introduced annual** herb to 0.18 m tall, hairless or sparsely hairy, sticky. Basal leaves soon withering. Stem leaves opposite each other, usually 0.3–1 cm long, 0.3–1.5 mm wide, margins usually more or less hairy towards the base, tips pointed, usually with a long **awn**. Flowers 4–15 mm long, with 4 green to pale brownish pink **sepals**, each 1.5 to about 2 mm long, and 4 **petals**, minute or absent. Sepals **spreading** when the seed cases are ripe. Flowers in open clusters. Flowers Sep.–Jan. Seed cases oval, equalling or exceeding the sepals, to 3.5 mm long

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Sagina~apetala> (accessed 5 February, 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.

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