

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering carpet. Photographer Nimal G. Karunajeewa, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic



Carpet with seed cases. Photographer Roger Spencer, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic

## Common name

Procumbent Pearlwort, Spreading Pearlwort

## Family

Caryophyllaceae

## Where found

Pastures, lawns, disturbed sites, gardens, paths, and moist areas. Often forming dense mats in gardens and on **lawns**. Coast and ranges, mainly Sydney area and Blue Mountains. Occasionally elsewhere.

## Notes

**Introduced perennial** herb, to about 0.05 m high, mat-forming, with fibrous roots, often rooting from the **nodes**. Stems to 20 cm long, hairless or rarely hairy with minute hairs. Leaves opposite each other, usually 0.5–1.5 cm long, 0.3–0.8 mm wide, hairless or the margins fringed, with long drawn out pointed tips with a short **awn**. Flowers with 4-5 **sepals** each 2–2.5 mm long, with narrow membranous margins. **Petals** minute, white, often absent. Flowers single, on stalks 5–13 mm long. Flowers Sep.–Feb. Seed cases oval, longer than the sepals, 2–4 mm long. Sepals **spreading** when the seed cases are ripe.

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