

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Photographer Jackie Mles, Bungonia



Fruit. Photographer Jackie Mles, Bungonia



Front and back of leaf. Photographer Jackie Mles, Bungonia

Common name

A nightshade

Family

Solanaceae

Where found

Forest, woodland, and in clearings. Commonly found after fire or disturbance. Wollongong area south to Jervis Bay, and west to near Goulburn.

Notes

Shrub to about 2.5 m high. Prickles sparse on stems, rare on leaf stalks, leaf midveins, individual flower stalks, and **calyces**, usually absent elsewhere. Fruit fleshy. Branches very densely **stellate** hairy (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see), grey to white. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, usually 4.6–12.5 cm long, 15–35 mm wide, densely stellate hairy, upper surface grey-green, lower surface yellowish-white, margins **entire**, or shallowly lobed in **juvenile** leaves. Flowers bisexual and male, purple, mauve, or pinkish, with orange **stamens**, 24–40 mm in diameter, with a short tube and 5 shallow lobes, in 4–7-flowered clusters. Fruit pale green to blackish when ripe, globose, 13–16 mm in diameter, base enclosed in the usually non-prickly **calyx**. Flowering: August to October.

Endangered NSW. Provisions of the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 No 63 relating to the protection of protected plants generally also apply to plants that are a threatened species.

NSW Threatened Species profile: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedSpeciesApp/profile.aspx?id=10761> (accessed 8 January 2021)

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Solanum-celatum> (accessed 8 January 2021)

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