

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Leafy stem with flowers and fruit. Photographer Don Wood, Bomaderry Creek Regional Reserve near Nowra



Leafy stems with flowers and fruit. Photographer Don Wood, north of Milton



Plant. Photographer Jackie Miles

Common name

Glossy nightshade

Family

Solanaceae

Where found

Weed of **forest** margins, pastures, gardens, parks, crops, footpaths, roadsides, and disturbed sites. Coast and ranges, occasionally elsewhere.

Notes

Native or introduced **annual** or **perennial** herb or short-lived **shrub** to 1.3 m or more high. Fruit fleshy. Stems often angled or narrowly **winged**, hairless or sparsely hairy with **simple** hairs, sometimes rough, sometimes purplish. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 2–14 cm long, 10–80 mm wide, sparsely hairy to almost hairless, margins **entire** or shallowly lobed or scalloped, tips pointed. Flowers white or pale mauve with a greenish-yellow centre and yellow **anthers**, 5–9 mm in diameter, star-shaped with 5 lobes. **Calyx** lobes curved back at the fruiting stage. Flowers in 4–12 flowered clusters. Fruit glossy purple-black to black, globular, 5–9 mm in diameter. Flowers throughout the year

Intermediates between ***Solanum nigrum*** and *Solanum nodiflorum* are sometimes seen.

Solanum americanum in NSW. Regarded as native in PlantNET in most of the area covered by this key, and as **introduced** on the South Western Slopes.

PlantNET description (as ***Solanum americanum***): <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Solanum~americanum> (accessed 14 April 2021)

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