

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



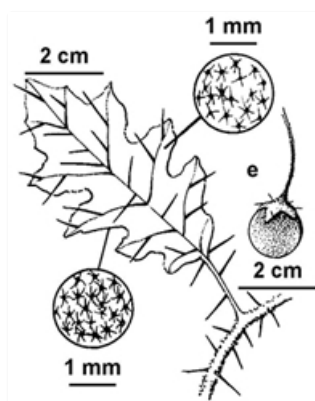
Flower and leaves. Photographer Marc Freestone, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic



Ripe fruit. Photographer John Tann, near Kempsey



Shrub. Photographer John Tann, near Kempsey



Line drawings: g. leaves and flowers; fruit; surface detail. M.Moir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

## Common name

Forest nightshade, Southern forest nightshade

## Family

Solanaceae

## Where found

**Forest** and **woodland**, often in disturbed sites. Coast and ranges.

## Notes

**Annual** or short-lived **perennial** herb or **shrub** to 0.5 m high, sprawling to **prostrate**, often purplish green. Prickles 4–14 mm long, frequent on most parts, except that there are few on the flower stalks. Young stems densely to sparsely **stellate**-hairy, (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see), slightly sticky, becoming hairless. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 5–14 cm long, 30–95 mm wide, deeply lobed, the lobes more or less triangular, margins toothed or further lobed, both surfaces dark green and sparsely stellate-hairy, wrinkled. Flowers lilac-blue to purple, 10–20 mm in diameter, shallowly bell-shaped with 5 lobes, in clusters of 1–6 flowers. Fruit fleshy, whitish to green, becoming purple to black, round to oval, 15–30 mm in diameter.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Solanum-prinophyllum> (accessed 7 February, 2021)

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