

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



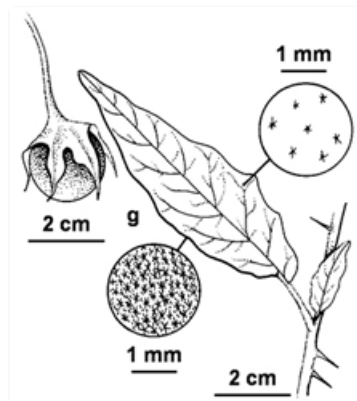
Flowering stem with young fruit. Photographer Jackie Miles



Flowering branches. Photographer Jackie Miles



Leafy stem with ripe fruit. Photographer Jackie Miles



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

Common name

Violet Nightshade, Southern Nightshade

Family

Solanaceae

Where found

Forest, grassy areas, disturbed sites, and stream banks. Coast and ranges south from Jervis Bay.

Notes

Shrub to 2 m high. Prickles to about 10 mm long, scattered on stems, leaf stalks, leaves, flower stalks, and sometimes on **calyces**. Fruit fleshy. Stems densely **stellate**-hairy (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see), purplish. **Adult** leaves **alternating** up the stems, 5–10 cm long, 10–36 mm wide, upper surface green, sparsely stellate hairy, lower surface yellow to white, densely stellate hairy, margins **entire** or wavy, sometimes lobed, tips pointed, bases wedge-shaped to **cordate**. **Juvenile** leaves 6.5–14 cm long, shallowly lobed. Flowers bisexual and male, pale blue or mauve to purple, 20–40 mm in diameter, star-shaped to tubular with a broad tube and 5 lobes, in clusters of 3–10 flowers. Flowers Winter to Spring. Fruit greenish, whitish, yellow or yellowish-green, globular, 13–20 mm in diameter.

Endangered Vic.

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

Author: Betty Wood.

This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:



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iOS edition