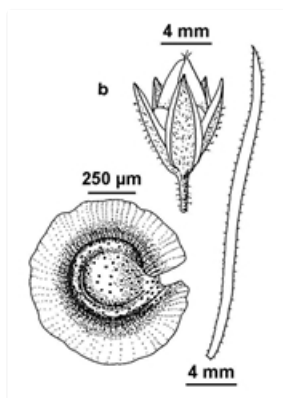


Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering plant. Photographer Jackie Miles



Line drawings (as *Spergularia* sp. 1). b. leaf; flower; seed. BM Mayfield, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

A sand-spurrey

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Where found

Saline, sometimes non-saline, swamps and marshes. Coastal.

Notes

Annual to **perennial** herb to 0.4 m tall or sprawling, with a thick woody rootstock. Leaves fleshy, opposite each other or appearing **whorled**, 1–8 cm long, 1–2 mm wide, tips with a **mucro** or short bristle, surfaces hairless, margins sometimes sparsely fringed with small **glandular** hairs. **Stipules** scarcely pointed, sometimes forked, shortly joined to the stem at the bases of the leaves within the flower clusters. Flowers with 5 pink **petals** each about 4 mm long. **Stamens** 5–10. **Sepals** occasionally with dark purple spots at the base, 4–7 mm long, longer than the petals. Flowers in open clusters. Seed cases 6–9 mm long.

Definite differentiation between the species of *Spergularia* depends on microscopic examination of the seeds.

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

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



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