

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Photographer Don Wood, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT



Flowering and leafy stems. Photographer Jackie Miles



Line drawings. Flowering branch; leaf. P.Neish, National Herbarium of Victoria, ©2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Tiny spyridium

Family

Rhamnaceae

Where found

Heath, **shrubland**, and moist places. Coastal south of Eden. Occasional sightings farther north.

Notes

Shrub to 0.50 m high, often sprawling. Branchlets densely hairy with fine **stellate** hairs (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see) and a few longer **simple** hairs. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 0.3–1 cm long, 2–7 mm wide, tips lobed, often with a broad tooth within the notch between the lobes, margins strongly curved down, upper surface densely **tomentose**, lower surface with a looser **tomentum**, **stipules** papery, pale brown. Flowers whitish, 2–3 mm long, tubular, with 5 hooded **petals**. Flowers in **heads** at the ends of the stems, each **subtended** by pale green to whitish hairy '**petals**' (actually leaves), surrounded by small persistent brown **bracts**. Flower heads in clusters about 3-10 mm in diameter.

Vulnerable Vic.

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

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