

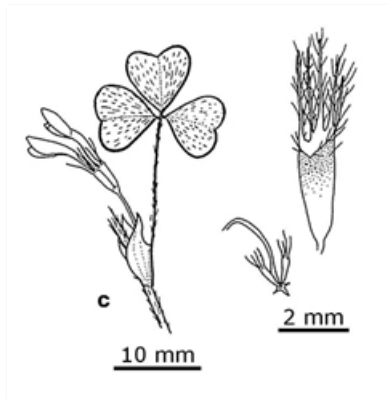
Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve, ACT



Young seed case. Photographer Keir Morse, Oregon, USA



Line drawings. c. leaf; flower head; seeding calyx. M Mbir, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Subterranean clover

Family

Fabaceae

Where found

Grassy areas, often in lawns, and disturbed sites. Widespread.

Notes

Introduced prostrate or sprawling **annual** herb, stems to 35 cm long, usually less than 0.2 m tall. **Calyx** teeth blunt. Stems sparsely hairy or almost hairless. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, **compound**, with 3 leaflets, each 0.4-2.5 cm long, 0.4-2.5 mm wide, **appressed** hairy on both surfaces, tips notched, margins of the upper parts of the leaves with minute teeth; **stipules** leafy. Flower heads globular to top-shaped, about 10 mm long, with 2-8 flowers that form seeds and several **sterile** flowers. Sterile flowers reduced to rigid **calyces** with **spreading** teeth. Individual flowers white, often with pink stripes, 8-14 mm long, pea shaped, with 5 **petals**, 2 joined together to form the **keel**. Flowers mainly Sep.-Jan. Seeding heads bend down and penetrate the ground.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Trifolium-subterraneum> (accessed 3 May 2021)

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



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