

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Photographer Don Wood, Coolangubra State Forest near Bombala



Flowering stems. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, south of Goulburn



Shrub. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, south of Goulburn

Common name

Gorse, Furze

Family

Fabaceae

Where found

Forest, woodland, heath, grassy areas, roadsides, disturbed sites, rock outcrops, and along streams. Widespread, often along highways.

Notes

Introduced shrub to 4 m tall, occasionally sprawling under harsh conditions. Branches and 'leaves' with spiny tips. Stems ribbed, densely hairy, more or less **glaucous** when young. 'Leaves' **alternating** up the stems, 0.5-3.5 cm long, 0.5-2 mm wide, grooved lengthwise, hairless to hairy. Seedlings have **compound** leaves with 3 leaflets. Flowers with a distinct coconut smell (weakly smelled by some people), 15-20 mm long, pea shaped, with 5 yellow **petals**, 2 joined together to form the **keel**. Flowers throughout the year.

General Biosecurity Duty with additional restrictions all NSW. Pest plant ACT. Noxious weed Vic.

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

Author: Betty Wood.

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