

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower. Photographer Don Wood, north of Bega



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, north of Bega



Flowering stem. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer AN Schmidt-Lebuhn, Koorawatha Nature Reserve, south of Cowra



Line drawings. e. flowering plant; flower; seed case. E Mayfield, National Herbarium of Victoria, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Spreading bluebell, Australian bluebell

Family

Campanulaceae

Where found

Open **forest**, **woodland**, lawns, roadsides, gardens, disturbed sites, and footpaths. Widespread.

Notes

Perennial herb to 1 m tall or sprawling. Stems hairless to sparsely hairy with coarse, moderately stiff hairs. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, sometimes the lowermost opposite each other, 0.2-7 cm long, 0.2-10 mm wide, becoming **linear** on the upper stems, hairless, the lower leaves sometimes sparsely hairy with coarse, moderately stiff hairs, margins **entire** or sometimes with small teeth, and sometimes wavy, tips blunt to pointed. Flowers blue to mauve, sometimes pink or white, tubular, with 5 lobes (sometimes 3 or 4), each 1.5-6 mm long. **Stigma** with 2-3 lobes. Free lobes of the flower less than twice as long as the tube. Flowers in clusters. Flowers all year.

Hybrids between *Wahlenbergia littoricola* and *Wahlenbergia gracilis* have been recorded.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Wahlenbergia-gracilis> (accessed 8 February, 2021)

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