Drymaria cordata (L.) Willd. ex Schult.

Family:
Caryophyllaceae

Willdenow, C.L. von in Schultes, J.A. (1819) *Systema Vegetabilium Edn. 16,* 5: 406.

Common name:
Tropical chickweed

Stem

Plants annual. Stems straggling, sometimes subscandent, usually rooting at lower nodes, 60-90 cm, mostly glabrous, minutely papillose toward inflorescence. Stipules membranous, narrowly triangular, splitting into few whitish setae.

Leaves

Petiole poorly defined, 3-7 mm; leaf blade ovate-cordate, (0.5-1-3(-3.5) × 0.6-3 cm, prominently 3-5-veined from base. Bracts lanceolate, scarious.

Flowers

Pedicel 3-5 mm, slender, glandular hairy. Sepals lanceolate-ovate, 2-3.7(-5) mm, margin membranous, 3-veined, glandular hairy, apex subacute. Petals white, obovate-cuneate, ca. 2.5 mm, deeply 2-cleft; segments narrow, apex ± acute. Stamens 2-3(-5), shorter than sepals. Styles 3, connate at base.

Fruit

Capsule ovoid, (1.5-)2-3 mm in diam., 3-valved. Seed dark brown, suborbicular, ca. 1.5 mm, regularly densely tuberculate.

Seedlings

Features not available.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CYP, NEQ, CEQ and south into northern New South Wales. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 860 m. Grows in disturbed areas in rainforest, acacia forest, eucalypt forest and vineforest; also in gardens.

Natural History & Notes

A weed of shady areas.

RFK Code

4180

Flowers [not vouchered]. CC-BY
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Leaves [not vouchered]. CC-BY
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Herbarium specimen. © CSIRO

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