

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Australian Plant Image Index, photographers RG & FJ Richardson, Woorndoo, Vic



Mature 'seeds'. Australian Plant Image Index, photographers RG & FJ Richardson, Steigitz, Vic



Plant with young 'seeds'. Photographer Don Wood, Bungonia State Conservation Area

## Common name

Hairy sheep's burr, Sheep's burr, Acaena

## Family

Rosaceae

## Where found

Dry **forest**, **woodland**, grassy sites, and disturbed areas. Widespread.

## Notes

**Perennial** herb to 0.66 m tall, moderately to densely hairy. 'Seeds' with many hooked spines, which stick to clothing. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, **compound**, 5-25 cm long, with 9-29 leaflets, each 0.5-2.6 cm long, 3-13 mm wide, upper surface moderately **appressed** hairy, lower surface densely hairy with appressed hairs, margins deeply lobed or toothed, and flat or curved down. Flowers and 'seeds' in long interrupted **spikes** with 3-4 scattered on the stems lower down the flower stalks. Individual flowers 2-6 mm long, with 4 white **sepals**, 0 **petals**, and maroon **anthers**.

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

*Acaena ovina* in PlantNET.

*Acaena agnipila* is still recognised as a separate species in NSW and Vic.

PlantNET description (as *Acaena agnipila*): <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Acaena~agnipila> (accessed 10 April 2021)

PlantNET description (as *Acaena ovina*): <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Acaena~ovina> (accessed 10 April 2021)

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