

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower heads and flower bud (subsp. *merxmuelleri*).  
Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Kosciuszko National Park



Flower heads (subsp. *merxmuelleri*). Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Kosciuszko National Park



Flowering plant (subsp. *merxmuelleri*). Photographer Don Wood, Majors Creek near Araluen

## Common name

Native Hawkweed, Mountain Picris, Hawkweed Picris

## Family

Asteraceae

## Where found

**Forest**, grassy **woodland**, **shrubland**, **grassland**, alpine **herbfields**, roadsides, and disturbed sites.

subsp. *angustifolia*: Widespread.

subsp. *carolorum-henricorum*: Mainly in the ranges north from Nattai National Park west of Bowral. Occasionally elsewhere.

subsp. *merxmuelleri*: Mainly Kosciuszko National Park, the mountains to the north, and ACT. Occasionally elsewhere.

## Notes

**Annual to perennial** herb to 1.4 m high, with sparse to dense **simple** hairs and 2-armed hooked hairs (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Leaves basal and **alternating** up the stems, 5-40 cm long, 4-35 mm wide, margins **entire** to toothed, tips blunt to pointed. Flower **heads** yellow, with many '**petals**', 3-10 mm in diameter behind the '**petals**'. '**Petals**' 7-19 mm long. Flower heads single or in loose clusters. Flowers all year.

**subsp. angustifolia**: Leaves few. Flower heads behind the 'petals' 3-8 mm in diameter, 10-14 mm long in flower, 12-18 mm long in seed. Outer **bracts appressed** to the flower heads usually rough, hairs along the **midrib**, if present, in multiple lines or 1-3 lines. Flower heads mostly in loose clusters, rarely single. Flowers Spring-Autumn. 'Seeds' 5-12.5 mm long overall.

**subsp. carolorum-henricorum**: Flower heads behind the 'petals' 4-7 mm in diameter, 8-10 mm long in flower, 8-12 mm long in seed. Hairs along the midrib of the bracts surrounding the flower heads, if present, in a single line. Flowers all year. 'Seeds' 2.9-5.2 mm long overall.

**subsp. merxmuelleri**: Leaves numerous near the base, fewer on the stems. Basal leaves sometimes withered in flower. Flower heads behind the 'petals' 5-10 mm in diameter, 10-14 mm long in flower, 12-18 mm long in seed. 'Petals' 12-19 mm long. Hairs along

the midrib of the bracts surrounding the flower heads, if present, in a single or double line. Flower heads in loose clusters of 1-40 heads. Flowers October to April. 'Seeds' 4.2-6.6 mm long overall.

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

PlantNET description with key to subspecies: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Picris-angustifolia> (accessed 22 January, 2021)

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



*Android edition*



*iOS edition*