

Scrophulariaceae
Myoporum boninense ssp australe
Boobialla

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ETYMOLOGY

(my-o-POR-um) Greek myo = closed + poros = closed appearance of the leaf glands; The species boninense = from Bonin Island Japan; subspecies australe (oz-trah-lee) southern distribution to south-eastern Australia;

LIFEFORM

Shrub 50 cm-1 m x 3 m Spread

OCCURS

Elliot Heads Q, NSW

HABITAT

Coastal, Swamps, Mangrove, Headlands, tidal creeks

LEAVES

Alternate, 3-10 x 2-3 cm, oval, smooth edges, lime green, succulent, taping into small clusters to stem;

FLOWERS

Tubular, 8 mm white, unspotted with 4-5 spreading lobed;

Flowering times: March, April, May, June, July, Aug

FRUIT

Drupes, 8 mm, globular, reddish, bright purple, almost dry attached to calyx;

Fruiting times: June, July, Aug

STEM

Prostrate, hairless (glabrous) shrub with brown lumps from old leaf scars;

ETHNOBOTANY

Small juicy edible berries; Contains essential oils *Furano sesquiterpenoid* (Ngaione)

NATIVE BEES

Hylaeus amicus, *Hylaeus elegans*, *Hylaeus violaceus*, *Lasioglossum adustum*, *Lasioglossum greavesi*, *Lasioglossum gunbowerense*, *Lasioglossum sp.* *Nomia gracilipes*;

INSECTS

Aphid *Aphis gossypii*, **Moths** *Acyphas leucomelas*, *Archaeoses polygrapha*, *Coenotes eremophile*

BIRD

Fruit eaten by birds;

ID FEATURE

Leaves ovate, obovate to oblanceolate or rarely more or less circular, very thick, fleshy, apex obtuse to broad-acute + Flowers unspotted; Previously confused with *Myoporum insulare* (Harden 1993)