

Myrtaceae

Leptospermum whitei

now Aggreflorum ellipticum
white's teatree



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ETYMOLOGY

(lep-to-SPERM-um) Greek leptos = slender + sperma = seed; The species whitei = After Cyril T. White 20th century Qld Government Botanist.

LIFEFORM

Shrub 3-6m x 2m Spread

STATUS

Conservation status 3VC species Recorded @ >107 locations (Moran, A 2009)

OCCURS

Sunshine Coast Qld to Coff's Harbour NSW

QLD DISTRICT

Moreton, Wide Bay

HABITAT

Coastal Heath, Swampy Often grow with *Banksia aemula*;

LEAVES

Alternate, 2.5 cm x 2-7 mm, with 3 longitudinal nerves, pubescent when young, on 1.5 mm stalks.

FLOWERS

White, 3-4 mm, 5 fan-shaped petals with fluffy grey hairs on calyx tube, stamens in bundles of about 5 in pairs or clusters. **Flowering Times:** Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan

FRUIT

Capsules, 3-4 mm, broad, 3-4 valved, shed before next flowering. **Fruiting Times:** Dec, Jan

BARK

Flaky reddish-brown, rough often in strips

STEM

Erect rounded shrub with many fine branches

LANDSCAPING USES

Ornamental potential usage in landscaping as excellent screen;

NATIVE BEES

Amegilla pulchra blue banded bee, *Exoneurella lawsoni*

INSECTS

Hemithynnus variabilis (Flower Wasp)

BUTTERFLY

Nectar feeds butterflies

ID FEATURES

Leaves elliptical + base angle narrower than 90 degrees + scented when crushed +

Flower 5 petals + Capsules 4 mm wide cup-shaped; Confused with *Leptospermum trinervium* taller tightly held bark + smaller flowers + narrower leaves.