

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower cluster (subsp. *vagus*). Photographer David Francis, near Mt Macedon, Vic



Flower head (subsp. *vagus*). Photographer Russell Best, near Mt Macedon, Vic



Flowering plant (subsp. *vagus*). Photographer Don Wood, Budawang National Park east of Braidwood

Common name

Saw Groundsel

Family

Asteraceae

Where found

Forest and moist gullies.

subsp. *eglandulosus*: North from Wollongong. Coast, ranges, and the eastern edge of the tablelands.

subsp. *vagus*: Occasional records. Widespread.

Notes

Shrub or **perennial** herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves mostly somewhat fleshy, often **glaucous**. Stems and leaves mostly hairless to sparsely hairy. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, mostly 4–18 cm long, 10–100 mm wide; lower leaves often **dissected**, with 1–3 narrow lobes per side; middle leaves with the margins usually coarsely and irregularly toothed or lobed; upper leaves toothed to **entire**. Flower **heads** with 6–15 yellow '**petals**', each 10–20 mm long, and yellow centres about 4–8 mm in diameter with about 25–50 **florets**. Flower heads below the '**petals**' bell-shaped to urn-shaped, surrounded by 12–16 **appressed bracts**. Flower heads in loose clusters of 3–20 heads. Flowering: spring–autumn.

subsp. *eglandulosus*: bracts appressed to the flower heads without **glands**, outer bracts at the bases of the flower heads with margins entire or weakly toothed.

subsp. *vagus*: bracts appressed to the flower heads **glandular**, outer bracts at the bases of the flower heads with margins prominently toothed.

PlantNET description of species and key to subspecies: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Senecio-vagus> (accessed 7 February, 2021)

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