

Usually a large, round shrub but eventually growing into a small tree. The twigs are initially purple, turning green-grey after 3 years. The *drummondii* variety is typified by its leaves, which are hairier and have a more elongated tip. The flowers are grouped in erect, umbel-shaped corymbs of about 8 cm. The individual flowers are small and yellowish white. They open in early summer. The berry-like fruits are pale blue to white. Grows wild in scrub, clay banks and thinly wooded areas, also in dry riverbeds. Tolerates a lot of water for a while.