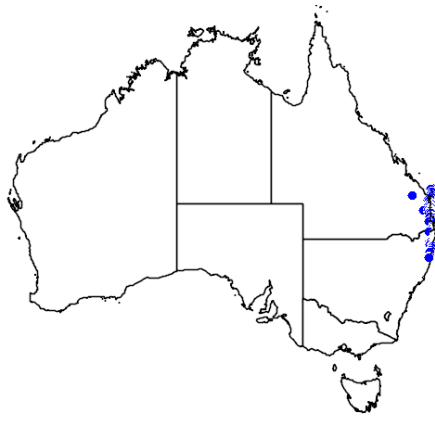
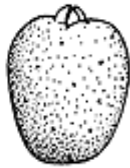


Myrtaceae
Austromyrtus dulcis
Midyim



Ann Moran
Field Botanist



ETYMOLOGY

(os-tro-MERT-us) latin = southern myrtle; The Latin species dulcis (DULL-sis) sweet or non acid, referring to the sweet taste of the fruit;

LIFEFORM

Shrub 50-80 cm x 1 m

OCCURS

SE Q, Urunga NSW

HABITAT

Coastal Heath, Dunes

TOLERANCES

Full sun, well drained

LEAVES

Opposite, 3 x 1 cm, ovate, tip taper to point, base wedge-shaped, dull to shiny above paler with grey hairs below on 1-3 mm stalks;

FLOWERS

White, 3 mm, 5 petals many stamens, myrtle-like. **Flowering Times:** Jan, Feb, March, April, May, June, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec

FRUIT

Berries, 5-6 mm, globose, white with dark mauve spotted fruit; **Fruiting Times:** Feb, March, April

BARK

finely flaky bark; Smooth brown mottled

TRUNK or STEM

Low spreading shrub branching; Young shoots densely pilose to villous; New growth with bronze tints & covered with long hairs;

ETHNOBOTANY

Edible fruit eaten raw; A few leaves in a teapot with ordinary tea make a pleasant aromatic brew; Cooked fruit in jams or stewed fruit prepared the seeds become hard and gritty; Attractive flowers and new growth. Lizards eat fruit. Shelter for small ground dwelling fauna mistletoe bird, noisy miner, silvereye (fr)

BIRD

INDIGENOUS USES Berries eaten raw by aborigines;

ID FEATURE

Dainty understory bush grows in most soils