

Wild Mignonette

Reseda luteola

Natural History Society of South Australia Inc.



Wild mignonette in front of field of dried Wards weed



Rosette form of young plant before growth of main stem

Native to central and southern Europe, eastward to Afghanistan. Possibly introduced to Australia for dyeing fabrics and naturalised by 1900.

Description

An erect plant with a life of one or two years, growing to about 1.5 m, and hairless on all parts.

Juvenile rosette leaves are oblong and are up to 15 cm long and 12 mm wide, with a shiny upper surface.

Stem leaves are oblong, mostly smaller than the basal rosette leaves.

Flowers are numerous, in elongating narrow cylindrical flowering stems above the leafy parts of the stems, to 80 cm long. Individual flowers occur on stalks 1-3 mm long, with an outer row of 4 or 5 greenish-elliptic sepals 1-3 mm long, and an inner row of pale yellow or cream petals 4-5 mm long divided into several finger-like lobes.

(www.environment.gov.au)



A stand of dried-out Wild mignonette plants





