Hysterobaeckea (Nied.) Rye

Options

ALA (https://bie.ala.org.au/species/https://id.biodiversity.org.au/taxon/apni/51782289) NSL [legitimate] (https://biodiversity.org.au/nsl/services/apni-format/display/4551386)

— Rye, B.L. (18 September 2015), Recognition of Hysterobaeckea as a genus of Myrtaceae tribe Chamelaucieae. *Nuytsia* 25: 213-214

Nomenclature

Rye, B.L. (18 September 2015), Recognition of Hysterobaeckea as a genus of Myrtaceae tribe Chamelaucieae. *Nuytsia* 25: 213-214 ()

Etymology

From the Greek *hysteros* (after, later) and *Baeckea* L.

Type

Baeckea behrii Schltdl. [= *Hysterobaeckea behrii* (Schltdl.) Rye].

Description

Shrubs to 3 (4) m high, often broome-like, glabrous, single-stemmed or multi-branched at base in most species. Young stems smooth (lacking tubercles) in most species. Leaves opposite, small, with a short but well-defined petiole. Leaf blades linear in outline to almost circular, usually thick, concolorous, entire; adaxial surface usually narrowly grooved along the midvein. Peduncles usually borne at 1 or few consecutive nodes, 1–3-flowered. Pedicels usually much shorter than the peduncles. Flowers actinomorphic. Hypanthium ± broadly obconic to cup-shaped, adnate to ovary for most of length. Sepals entire; outer surface sometimes horned. Petals white or rarely yellow. Staminodes rare or absent. Stamens inflexed in bud, 9–28 but commonly c. 20, fairly equally distributed in a circle or with gaps directly opposite the petals, much shorter than the petals, geniculate such that the anther faces inwards at about a right angle to the filament. Filaments fairly narrow, 0.1–0.3 mm wide at base, usually white. Anthers with small, closely connate thecae, dehiscent by short, basally divergent slits; connective gland longer than the thecae. Ovary 1–3-locular; summit usually glandular; placentas large; ovules radial, 5–21 per loculus. Style deeply inset; stigma peltate. Fruits fully to c. ½-inferior, dehiscent by 3 or rarely 2 valves and many-seeded in most species, indehiscent and few-seeded in 2 species; hypanthium cup-shaped and often somewhat lobed. Seeds facetted (except when fruit indehiscent), 0.7–2 mm long; outer surface usually smooth; hilum usually very small.

Diagnostic Features

Distinguished by the following combination of characters: stamens 9–28, in a circle or antisepalous (with gaps directly opposite the petals), geniculate at the base of the connective gland, connective gland longer than the thecae; peduncles borne at 1 or few consecutive nodes, 1–3-flowered; ovules radial, 5–21 per loculus.

Chromosome Numbers

Presumed to be constant on $x = 11$ but only two species have been sampled.

Biostatus

Native.



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Australian Plant Image Index
Hysterobaeckea cornuta by Thiele, K.R., 21/11/2010 (© Thiele, K.R.)

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Top

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Distribution

A genus of 14 named species occurring in southern mainland Australia, with most endemic to the southwest of Western Australia, 1 restricted to the Northern Territory, and 2 occurring in South Australia, one of which extends into Victoria.

Ecology

Occurs primarily in arid and semi-arid environments. Flowers attract varied insect pollinators to readily accessible nectar.

Nomenclature and Typification

Hysterobaeckea (Nied.) Rye, *Nuytsia* 25: 213 (2015); *Baeckea* subg. *Hysterobaeckea* Nied. in H.G.A. Engler & K.A.E. Prantl (eds), *Die natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien* III, 7(88): 99 (1893); *Hysterobaeakea* Rye, *Nuytsia* 29: 81 (2018), *orth. var*. Lecto: *Baeckea behrii* Schltdl, designated by B.L. Rye, *Nuytsia* 25: 213 (2015) [= *Hysterobaekea behrii* (Schltdl.) Rye].

Taxonomic Notes

Hysterobaeckea belongs to subtribe Hysterobaeckeinae and is sister to the *Sannantha-Austrobaeckea* clade (Nge *et al.* 2025).

Illustrations

B.L. Rye, *Nuytsia* 29: 84, fig. 3, https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/60016788 (https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/60016788); 93, fig. 7, https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/60016797 (https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/60016797); 99, fig. 8, https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/60016803 (https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/60016803) (2018); B.L. Rye, *Nuytsia* 37: 47, fig. 1 (2026).

Excluded or Uncertain Names

A very poorly known Western Australian entity, *H.* sp. Exclamation Lake (M.E. Trudgen 1524) (Western Australian Herbarium (1998–), needs further study.

Top

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Source

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Taxonomy

- Kingdom: Plantae ()
- Phylum: Charophyta
- Class: Equisetopsida
- Subclass: Magnoliidae
- Superorder: Rosanae ()
- Order: Myrtales ()
- Family: Myrtaceae (/opus/foa/profile/Myrtaceae) ()
- Genus: Hysterobaeckea (/opus/foa/profile/Hysterobaeckea) ()

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