

Melaleuca systema

Commonly: Coastal Honeymyrtle

Vascular Plant Family: Myrtaceae

Flowers spring and summer

Melaleuca systema is a shrub up to 1.5m tall, common along the coastline, however at Peppermint Grove Beach the shrubs are planted, typically wind swept and only just over 1m tall. It does not occur naturally at Peppermint Grove Beach. The photograph below is taken at Wave Walk Car Park



The leaves are scattered, spreading or recurved, needle-like but slightly flattened, up to 25cm long, often with a sharp tip.



The white to pale yellow flower spikes are rounded up to 1.5cm long. Each flower consists of sepals less than 1mm long, petals up to 3mm long and 5 bundles of 6-10 stamens up to 7mm long. In this photograph below of the buds the stamens are still protected by the yellow petals.



The fruiting spike is globular, the individual fruits are 4mm wide with a very small opening.

