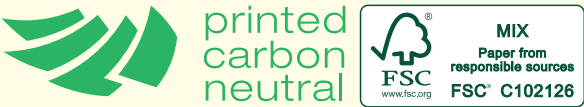


Identification Made Easy

Ground Dwellers	7
bulbs, lilies	7
daisies	25
mixed.	45
very small	105
orchids	115
Climbers and Twiners	148
Small Shrubs	163
Medium Shrubs	211
Large Shrubs	256
Trees.	277
Water Loving	297
Grass-like Plants	319

- a) Choose a matching life form.
- b) Find the coloured section in the book.
- c) Match the plant with a similar photograph.
- d) Read the notes to check identification.



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Focus on Flora

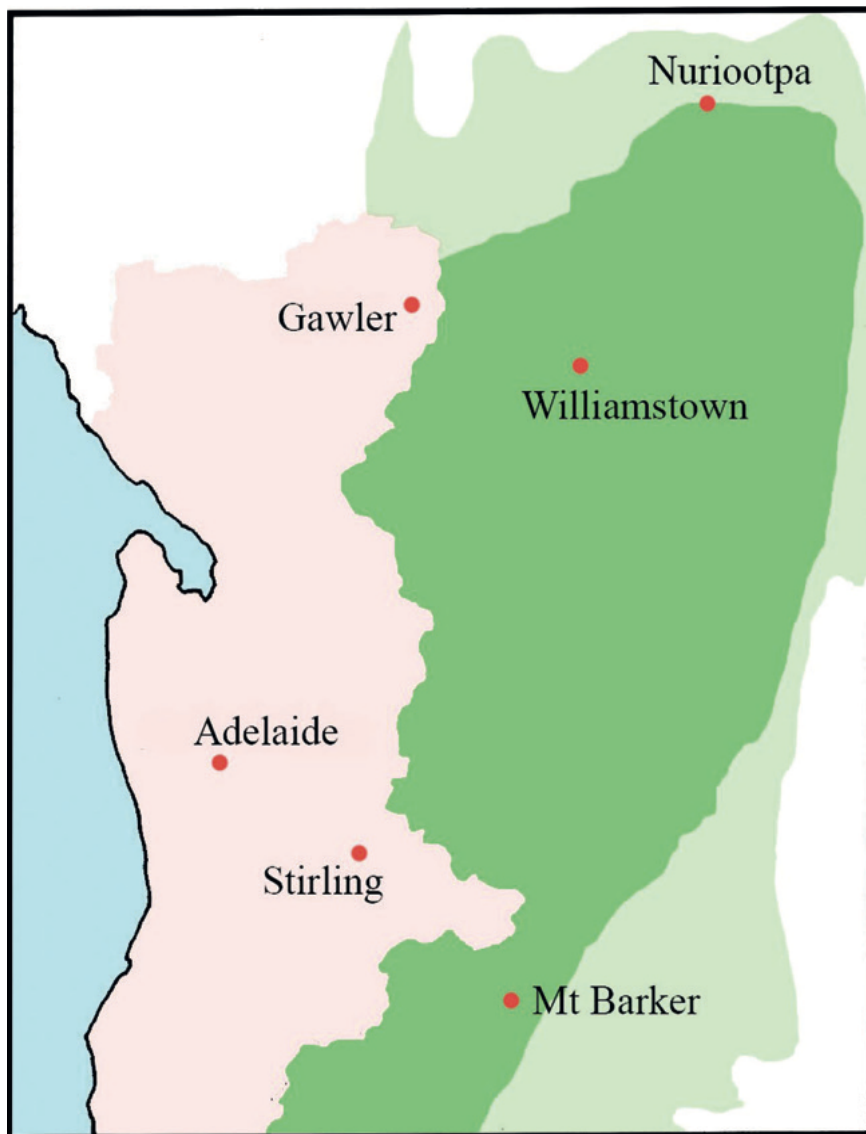
Focus on Flora

Native Plants of the Adelaide Hills and Barossa
2nd Edition



Kersbrook Landcare Group

Area Map



The dark green zone represents the book's focus area. Most of the plant species in this book can be found throughout the whole Adelaide Hills and onto the Fleurieu Peninsula. Interestingly a significant number of these species can also be found in the Eastern States.

Arthropodium strictum

Chocolate-lily

Asparagus Family ASPARAGACEAE

arth-roh-POH-dee-um STRIK-tum Meaning: *Arthropodium* – jointed foot referring to the jointed flower stem, *strictum* – erect, upright

General description Few grass-like leaves to 30cm. Flowers pink to violet.

Specific features Single flowers along a long slender, rigid stalk. Six petals, 3 broader with wavy margins. Anthers dark-purple, with yellow at base. Fruit an oval shaped capsule.

Size 20-100cm tall.

Community Woodland and open forest.

Flowering time Spring.

Special interest Tubers an Aboriginal food source. Flower scent reminiscent of chocolate or vanilla. Also known as Vanilla-lily.

Abundance Common.

Well represented at Roachdale NT Reserve but very widespread.

Similar species *Arthropodium fimbriatum* (p 7) has flowers in pairs and 3s. Flowers later in summer.



Calostemma purpureum

Pink Garland-lily

Amaryllis Family AMARYLLIDACEAE

kal-oh-STEM-uh per-PER-ee-um Meaning: Calostemma – (kalos) beautiful, (stemma) crown of stamens, purpureum – purple

General description A small to medium lily flowering at the tip of a long stem, regenerating annually from a bulb.

Specific features The flowers, from white to pink to reddish-purple, appear well before the long, smooth bright-green, strappy leaves. The flowers are on long fine stalks radiating from the top of the stem.

The fleshy fruit of about 10mm in diameter, falls to the ground to germinate.

Size To 50cm tall.

Community Usually damper grassy areas within woodland - sometimes drier areas.

Flowering time Summer to autumn.

Special interest The cloying scented larger flowers of the common Easter Lily, should not be confused with this smaller native.

Abundance Common.

Well represented at Para Wirra CP but widespread.



Stylidium armeria

Formerly Stylidium graminifolium

Grass Trigger-plant

Trigger-plant Family STYLIDIACEAE

stiel-ID-ee-um arm-AIR-ee-uh Meaning: Stylidium – a column (united stamens and style), armeria – place where arms (weapons) are kept (trigger of flower)

General description Perennial plant with a tussock of grass-like leaves and a long flower spike with many pale-pink flowers.

Specific features Stiff leaves with margins curled under, extend for half the 60cm stem height. Each flower has two lots of paired petals with a sticky trigger between. Flowers open from the bottom of the spike. Seed capsule 7-12mm long.

Size To 60cm tall.

Community Woodland and grassland in moist sites.

Flowering time Spring and early summer.

Special interest The pollen of these flowers is at the end of a hinged mechanism. When an insect alights on a flower, the trigger releases and the pollen package hits the back of the insect, ensuring sexual reproduction. After a short time the trigger resets.

Abundance Uncommon.

Well represented at Hale CP but mostly Central Hills.

Similar species Could be confused by a novice with an orchid, although orchids have 6 petals with a distinct central 'lip or tongue' petal. They do not have the highly visible trigger.



Ptilotus erubescens

Hairy-tails

Amaranth Family AMARANTHACEAE

tie-LOH-tus e-rue-BES-uhns Meaning: Ptilotus – feather (flowers), erubescens – becoming reddish

General description Bases bear many short stems with heads of flowers, white with bright pink tips, held above the leaves.

Specific features Small smooth slender leaves, often broader toward tips grow along the stems. Attractive fluffy flower heads. Usually dies back to base in late summer.

Size To 20cm tall.

Community Dry grassy or sandy woodlands.

Flowering time Late spring-early summer.

Special interest Grows in drier areas often on poor soils. Closely related to the Mulla Mulla of inland desert areas.

Abundance Scarce.

Well represented at Para Wirra CP.

Similar species None in the Hills.



Kunzea pomifera

Muntries
Myrtle Family MYRTACEAE

KUNZ-ee-uh pom-IF-er-uh Meaning: Kunzea – after G. Kunze, pomifera – bearing apples (fruits)

General description Ground cover, often mat-like with small bright-green leaves with pointed tips and fluffy white flowers.

Specific features Main stem woody, often rooting and with some short upright stems and longer trailing branches. Flowers of many stamens grow at branch tips.

Size Branches can spread over several metres.

Community Sandy mallee, woodland and coastal limestone.

Flowering time Late spring or early summer.

Special interest Pinkish-purple fruit is edible and used in jams. Producers trellis plants for fruit crops. Attracts butterflies and other insects, birds and lizards. Great habitat plant.

Abundance Uncommon.

Well represented at Sandy Creek CP.



Drosera whittakeri

Rosette Sundew
Sundew Family DROSERACEAE

DROS-ur-uh WHIT-AK-er-eye Meaning: Drosera – dewy, whittakeri – after J Whittaker

General description Small plant with flat rosette of sticky spoon-shaped leaves bearing single large white flowers on short stalks.

Specific features Leaves with hairy margins, tipped with sticky glands, produce several leafless stalks, each with a scented, single white flower. Perennial, arising from a red tuber each year.

Size To 5cm.

Community Woodland and mallee in damp loam or sand.

Flowering time Early spring.

Special interest Carnivorous, trapping small insects in sticky glandular hairs, digesting them and absorbing nitrogen, enabling growth on nitrogen deficient soils. The name sundew refers to the glistening glandular secretions of the leaf hairs.

Abundance Common.

Well represented Widespread.

Similar species

Drosera glanduligera (p 105) is much smaller with orange flowers.



Genoplesium rufum

Dark Midge-orchid

Orchid Family ORCHIDACEAE

JEAN-oh-PLEES-ee-um ROOF-um Meaning: Genoplesium – genos-kind, plesios-near (close to Prasophyllum), rufum—red

General description Very small dark orchid with single stem and without apparent leaves. Single reddish flowers alternating along the stem. Plants growing singly or in small groups.

Specific features Stem green. Leaf a sheath around the stem. 3-20 flowers in multi levelled arrangement. The downturned flower's colour varies from reddish brown to darkish-purple to grey-green.

Size 4-25cm tall.

Community Disturbed areas in most community types.

Flowering time Summer to autumn.

Special interest Now also known as *Corunostylis* sp. Adelaide Hills.

Abundance Common but often overlooked due to their tiny size and colouring.

Well represented at Widespread.



Lysiana exocarpi

Harlequin Mistletoe
Mistletoe Family LORANTHACEAE

lie-see-AHN-uh eks-oh-KARP-ee (eye) Meaning: Lysiana – set apart from Loranthus, exocarpi – outside fruit

General description Spreading semi-parasitic plant with long, flat narrow leaves and upright red tubular flowers with green tips.

Specific features Attached to host plants, often sheoaks, sometimes other mistletoes. Flowers sometimes yellow tipped with 6 narrow green petals. Oval fruit red or black when ripe.

Size Depends on age and host plant.

Community Various.

Flowering time All year.

Special interest Various host plants but not *Eucalyptus*. Important bird food with sticky fruit containing the seed, excreted and stuck to the branch where it may later grow. Grows on some non-native species e.g. fruit trees. Fruit eaten year round by Aboriginal people.

Abundance Common.

Well represented at Sandy Creek CP but widespread.

Similar species Other mistletoe species which have more open hanging flowers with no, or only a partial tube.



Eutaxia microphylla

Common Eutaxia

Peas FABACEAE

yue-TAKS-ee-uh mie-kroh-FIL-uh Meaning: Eutaxia – well-ordered (leaves), microphylla – small leaves

General description Variable habit from prostrate forms to an erect shrub to 50 cm tall but in this area, a much-branched low bush with dark-yellow and red veined pea-flowers.

Specific features Small paired leaves are crowded and close to the stem, usually flattened but appear cylindrical. Leaves are smooth with a stiff spine on the end of each branch.

Size To about 50cm tall.

Community Woodland.

Flowering time Spring.

Special interest Caterpillars of the Fringed Blue Butterfly feed on this species. As with all hard seeded legumes, the seed coat needs to be cracked before germination can take place.

Abundance Uncommon.

Well represented at Para Wirra CP. (N,C,S)

Similar species *Pultenaeas* have a similar shaped pea-flower and colour but can be distinguished by the brown papery bracts (stipules) at the base of the leaf.

