

Calandrinia brevipedata
Commonly: Short-stalked Purslane
Vascular Plant Family: Portulacaceae
Flowers late winter to early summer

Calandrinia brevipedata is ground hugging or sprawling fleshy plant to 30cm. Where it grows exposed to the sun the leaves often turn red but where protected under shrubs they are green.



The lower leaves are up to 4cm long and 5mm wide, becoming shorter as they go up the plant. They are succulent and have no stalk.



The inflorescence is open with the flowers scattered along the inflorescence. At the base of each flower there is a small leaf like bract. The petals have a small point at the tip. They are about 5mm long and the colour varies from white to pale pink.



The 2 sepals are persistent and protect the young fruit. When mature the 3-celled capsule is light-brown, slightly longer than the sepals and about 5mm long. It opens by the valves at the apex releasing the small black seeds.



Sepals

Young fruit