

Carpobrotus virescens
Commonly: Coastal Pigface
Vascular Plant Family: Aizoaceae
Flowers late winter to spring

Carpobrotus virescens is a prostrate, perennial herb with ground hugging long stems which root along the nodes. This is illustrated by this fruiting plant. The leaves are opposite and very fleshy.



The succulent leaves are up to 7cm long, triangular in outline and slightly convex on the upper surface.



The vivid pink, occasionally white flowers are large (up to 5cm across) and terminal on short branches. The pink petal like structures are really sterile stamens called staminodes. The staminodes are narrow and occur around the

Refer also to Peppy Plants article [Carpobrotus virescens](#)

ovary. The stamens (inside the staminodes) are many up to 100 in several whorls.



The fruits are fleshy, turning red at maturity. The 4 remnant calyx lobes are visible at the top of the fruit. Two of the lobes are shriveled and grey but the other 2 are large and point upwards.



This illustrates the fleshy fruit. The seeds are embedded in the succulent fruit tissue.