

****Freesia alba x leichtlinii***

Commonly: Freesia

Vascular Plant Family: Iridaceae

Flowers late winter and spring

**Freesia alba x leichtlinii* is a hybrid garden escape, originally from South Africa. The above ground leaves and flowers are renewed each year but it is regarded as a perennial as it has an underground storage organ a corm. Under protection the plants can reach 30cm in height. The flower colour varies from white through yellow and pink, with white being the most common colour.



The flowers are tubular up to 2.5cm long and narrower at the base than at the top.



The flowers are 6-lobed, the lower lobes up to 1.5cm long and the broader upper ones to 2cm long. All are the same colour. There are 6 stamens and the style is 3 lobed.



Photograph of corm.



Nearly every flower produces a fruit which contains 3 seeds. They reproduce by seed and also by offshoots of the corm.

The leaves are up to 25cm long and 10mm wide. They have several parallel veins that run the full length of the leaf.



*Indicates it is a weed