

Hardenbergia comptoniana

Commonly: Native Wisteria

Vascular Plant Family: Fabaceae

Flowers winter and spring

Hardenbergia comptoniana is a climbing or twining perennial plant. It can become dense and completely cover any plant it is twining over.



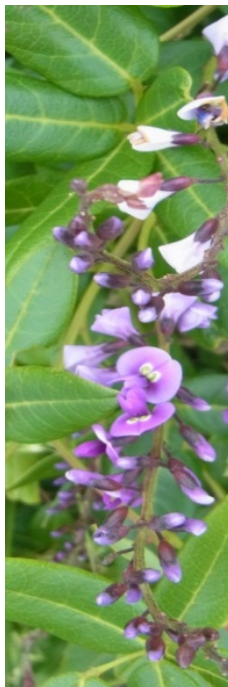
The calyx is 4mm long, 2-lipped, the upper is 2-lobed and the lower lip 3-lobed. The erect standard petal (up to 9 mm long) has a white to yellow “eye” with a green centre.



The leaves are stalked, alternate, with 3 or 5 leaflets. The leaflets are up to 10cm long, typically egg shaped but closer to the sea they are often very broad.



The glabrous pods are turgid and cylindrical and up to 4cm long. They mature to a brown colour and explosively release the black seeds when mature. On a hot day when several pods open together the noise made is readily heard.



The inflorescence is axillary and consists of a drooping raceme of flower clusters. Typically the flowers are purple but occasionally white flowers can be observed. The flowers open from the top of the inflorescence down.

