

## MYRTLE-LEAF MILKWORT

*Polygala myrtifolia*

SHRUB

Family Polygalaceae

Origin Africa

**Description** An evergreen shrub that grows to a height of 2 metres and a spread of 3 metres. The plant prefers light, sandy, well drained soils in open sunny areas. It is drought resistant but frost tender<sup>1</sup>. This species is found along coastal dunes, headlands and edges of estuaries<sup>2</sup>.

**Stems/Leaves** Mostly smooth branches with some fine curled hairs. Densely leaved branches. Elliptic leaves, with obtuse apex, smooth to slightly hairy<sup>3</sup>.

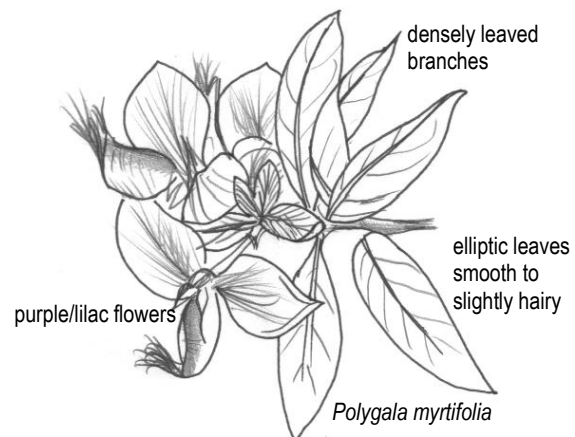
**Flowers** Purple to pale lilac coloured flowers, flowering all year round but mostly September to October<sup>3</sup>.

**Fruit/Seed** Circular capsule approx 8 to 10 mm long<sup>3</sup>.

**Removal techniques**

**Manual** Remove small seedlings by hand and dig out mature plants<sup>2</sup>.

**Chemical** Chemical controls are available. Cutting and painting with herbicide can be effective<sup>2</sup>.



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