

Cyanicula gertrudae

Name and Authority

Cyanicula gertrudae (Ostenf.) Hopper & A.P.Br.

Synonyms (previous names)

Caladenia gertrudae; Cyanicula gertrudiae; Pentisea gertrudae

Common Name

Pale China Orchid

Complex Name

Cyanicula gemmata (China Orchids)

Originally Described by

Carl Ostenfield in Biologiske meddelelser, Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab 3(2): 43-44, Fig. 2 (1921) as Caladenia gertrudae

Distribution and Habitat

Yallingup to Albany, growing in sandy soils in coastal woodlands and shrublands, flowering best in the season following summer fire.

Flowering Months

· · · · · Sep Oct Nov ·

Description

A coastal species 50–150 mm high with a shortly hairy leaf, 30–50 mm long by 10–20 mm wide, which is usually green on the underside and up to two (rarely three) pale blue, sweetly fragrant flowers 20–40 mm across.

Distinguishing Features

It is distinguished from the often co-occurring Blue China Orchid (*Cyanicula gemmata*) by its uniformly green rather than purplish backed leaf, strong sweet perfume, paler blue flowers, and parallel-sided, prominently striped labellum.

WA Conservation Code (Threatened Status)

Not Listed



Cyanicula gertrudae



[Cyanicula gertrudae distribution](#)



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