Gastrodia

Name and Authority

Gastrodia R.Br.

Common Name

Potato Orchids

Originally Described by

Robert Brown in Prodr.Fl.Nov.Holland. 330 (1810)

Flowering Months

Jan · · · · · · · · Nov Dec

Description

Gastrodia <u>species</u> have leaves that are reduced to inconspicuous bracts, an unusual hollow flowering stem and up to 70 inverted bell-shaped flowers with united <u>petals</u> and <u>sepals</u>. Plants lack chlorophyll and, as they are unable to photosynthesise, have a strong reliance on associated mycorrhizal fungi which supply nutrients to the plant.

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Gastrodia distribution