

# Pterostylis elegantissima

## Name and Authority

**Pterostylis elegantissima** (D.L.Jones & C.J.French) D.L.Jones

## Synonyms (previous names)

Pterostylis sp. 'elegant'; Oligochaetochilus elegantissimus

## Common Name

Elegant Rufous Greenhood

## Complex Name

Pterostylis rufa (Rufous Greenhoods)

## Originally Described by

David Jones & Christopher French in Australian Orchid Review 79(4): 46-50 (2014) as Oligochaetochilus elegantissimus

## Distribution and Habitat

Mulline to Gnowangerup, growing in sandy, sandy-clay soils in woodlands and shrublands, and shallow soil pockets on inland granite outcrops.

## Flowering Months

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## Description

A little-known species 150–450 mm high with six to 10 leaves forming a ground-hugging basal rosette 20–60 mm across and up to eight well-spaced translucent, green and white or brown and white flowers 10–12 mm across.

## Distinguishing Features

It is distinguished from the related Exserted Rufous Greenhood (*Pterostylis exserta*) by its almost black labellum and easterly and south-easterly distribution. From other members of the *Pterostylis rufa* complex it is distinguished by its taller inflorescence, widely spaced flowers and almost black labellum.

## WA Conservation Code (Threatened Status)

Priority One



*Pterostylis elegantissima*



*Pterostylis elegantissima* distribution



*Pterostylis elegantissima*



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