

Pterostylis erubescens

Name and Authority

Pterostylis erubescens D.L.Jones & C.J.French

Synonyms (previous names)

Pterostylis sp. 'red flowered'; Diplodium erubescens

Common Name

Red-sepalled Snail Orchid

Complex Name

Pterostylis nana (Snail Orchids)

Originally Described by

David Jones & Christopher French in Austral.Orchid Rev. 79(3):38-41 (2014)

Distribution and Habitat

Bindoon to Manypeaks (town), growing in sand, sandy-clay and lateritic soils in forests, woodlands and shrublands. In some areas it can be found in shallow soil pockets on granite outcrops.

Flowering Months

· · · · · Jul Aug Sep Oct · ·

Description

A robust [species](#) 120–220 mm high with three to four [basal](#) leaves forming an ascending [rosette](#) 15–25 mm across, eight to 13 [cauline](#) leaves and one (rarely two) translucent, dull green to reddish-brown and white flowers 7–8 mm across. The [dorsal sepal](#) extends beyond the [petals](#) to form a short point. When growing in exposed locations the flattened [basal rosette](#) of leaves is well defined, however, when growing in sheltered locations such as under dense vegetation the [rosette](#) is often loose and poorly defined.

Distinguishing Features

It is distinguished from the related Tall Snail Orchid (*Pterostylis pyramidalis*) by its hairy flower stem (smooth in *P. pyramidalis*) and reddish-brown tipped [dorsal sepal](#) and [petals](#), this latter feature also distinguishing it from most other members of the *Pterostylis nana* [complex](#).

WA Conservation Code (Threatened Status)

Not Listed



Pterostylis erubescens



Pterostylis erubescens distribution



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