

Thelymitra porphyrosticta

Name and Authority

Thelymitra porphyrosticta F.Muell.

Synonyms (previous names)

Thelymitra sp. 'south coast'

Common Name

Southern Queen of Sheba

Complex Name

Thelymitra spiralis/variegata (Lobed Sun Orchids, the Queens)

Originally Described by

Ferdinand von Mueller in Fragm. 5:97-98 (1865)

Distribution and Habitat

Mountt Lindesay to Waychinicup with a disjunct population in the Stirling Range, growing in sandy soils in shrublands and woodlands. Plants of what may be this [species](#) have been found in the Stirling Ranges but further research is required ascertain if this is the case.

Flowering Months

· · · · · Aug Sep · · ·

Description

An attractive [species](#) 100–350 mm high with a narrow, smooth leaf 40–90 mm long by 4–9 mm wide at its widest point and up to five purple, mauve, orange and golden-yellow flowers 30–50 mm across.

Distinguishing Features

It is distinguished from the related Queen of Sheba (*Thelymitra variegata*) by its more colourful flowers with often contrastingly coloured [petals](#) and [sepals](#) and its more southerly and easterly distribution. The flower colouration is similar to that of Eastern Queen of Sheba (*T. speciosa*) but unlike that [species](#) which has one or two flowers it has up to five flowers.

WA Conservation Code (Threatened Status)

Priority Two



[Thelymitra porphyrosticta](#)



[Thelymitra porphyrosticta distribution](#)



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