

Thelymitra spiralis

Name and Authority

Thelymitra spiralis (Lindl.) F.Muell.

Synonyms (previous names)

Macdonaldia spiralis

Common Name

Curly Locks

Complex Name

Thelymitra spiralis/spiralis (Lobed Sun Orchids)

Originally Described by

John Lindley in A Sketch of the Vegetation of the Swan River Colony: I. (1840) as Macdonaldia spiralis



Thelymitra spiralis



Thelymitra spiralis distribution

Distribution and Habitat

Perth to Harvey and Walpole to Mount Manypeaks Nature Reserve, growing in seasonally damp to wet soils around the margins of swamps. The [species](#) has not been seen in the Perth area for some years and is rare elsewhere.

Flowering Months

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Description

A rare [species](#) 100–300 mm high with a narrow, smooth leaf 50–100 mm long by 3–8 mm wide at its widest point and up to three mauve-pink to pale-pink flowers 40–60 mm across.

Distinguishing Features

It is distinguished from Eastern Curly-locks (*Thelymitra maculata*) and Northern Curly-locks (*T. sp.* 'Kalbarri') by its slightly larger flowers and narrower [column](#) with narrower, more erect [lateral](#) lobes. It also has a preference for swampy [habitat](#).

WA Conservation Code (Threatened Status)

Not Listed

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