

*Threlkeldia diffusa*

## COASTAL BONEFRUIT

R.Br.

**Flowering period:** October–November.**Description:** Much branched prostrate to low-growing and spreading succulent shrub to 40 (90) cm high. Leaves rounded and fleshy, 5–30 mm long with a cluster of hairs in each leaf axil. Flowers solitary, obscure and produced in leaf axils. Fruits fleshy, 1.5–2.5 mm long and brightly coloured red or yellow, sometimes mixed colours on the same plant.**Pollination:** Self-pollination and maybe supplemented by insect visitation.**Distribution:** Widespread and common on saline soils throughout Western Australia from Broome to the Bight and in all other southern states of Australia. In the Perth region found in coastal areas; usually protected swales in primary dunes and scattered in secondary dunes. Tolerates high wind and salt exposure and may scramble through nearby low shrubs.**Propagation:** Easily propagated from cuttings taken at any time of the year.**Uses in restoration:** A useful plant for dune biodiversity enrichment as it is easy to propagate, grows rapidly and has a high survival rate. Bird attracting with its fleshy fruits.**Notes:** One of the few succulent species in the Western Australian flora. A useful garden species being highly drought tolerant and producing attractive, multicoloured berries.

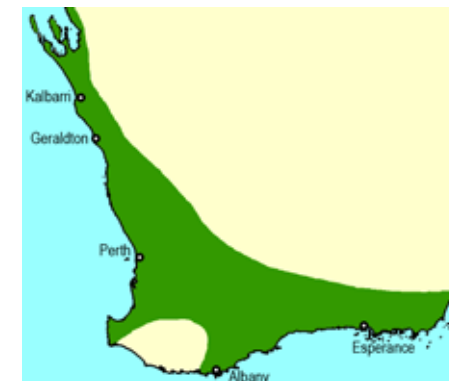
Habit



Fruit



Flowering branches



Distribution