

## *Guichenotia ledifolia*

### GUICHENOTIA

Ray

**Flowering period:** July–September.

**Description:** Low, spreading, grey-green shrub to 1 m high. Leaves to 6 cm long, narrow and covered in fine, grey hairs giving the leaves a felt-like appearance. Flowers produced in clusters of up to four, pendulous with the calyx, not the petals, being the prominent coloured component of the flowers.

**Pollination:** Most likely pollinated by small native bees using the principle of buzz-pollination where the bee alights and grasps the stamens and buzzes to release pollen from the anthers.

**Distribution:** Widespread and can be locally common on limestone soils and dune heathlands particularly in secondary dunes. Found from Shark Bay south to Israelite Bay and commonly found on off-shore islands in the Perth region.

**Propagation:** From cuttings or seed. Seed may benefit from mild abrasion with sandpaper to scarify the seed.

**Uses in restoration:** A highly useful species in restoration programs with the attractive flowers and reliable growth providing biodiversity benefits. Grow in full sun and with similarly sized companion species such as *Melaleuca systena* and *Phyllanthus calycinus*.

**Notes:** Excellent garden subject particularly in coastal gardens where the long flowering period and attractive flowers off-set by the soft, grey-green foliage make mass plantings a landscape success. Avoid deep shade and attempt to plant higher in the landscape or in a rockery setting so that the pendulous flowers are more easily appreciated.



Habit



Branches



Flowers



Distribution