

*Leucopogon parviflorus*

## COAST BEARD-HEATH

(Andrews) Lindl.

**Flowering period:** February–March and June–October.**Description:** Erect, densely branching shrub to 2 m in the Perth coastal region. Leaves soft, 1.5–2 cm long and 0.4–0.8 mm wide. Flowers 3 mm across, in terminal and axillary cylindrical spikes often covering the plant. Petals densely bearded. Fruit fleshy, white and globular maturing over a long period and containing a hard fruit comprising up to five seed segments.**Pollination:** Open pollinated by a variety of insects including introduced honeybees.**Distribution:** Widespread on limestone and dunes throughout the south-west coastal areas extending to all southern states of Australia. In the Perth region found in a wide variety of locations including swales or secondary dune heathland and offshore islands.**Propagation:** Difficult; however, if seed is sown and the seed tray remains exposed to natural rainfall, seedlings will appear over an extended period of a year or more. In eastern Australia some propagators have had success sowing smoke-treated seed collected from bird droppings.**Uses in restoration:** A potentially important species for fruit-eating native birds due to the production of fleshy, edible fruit over an extended period. Difficulty with propagation makes this an uncommon species in restoration programs.**Notes:** The widespread distribution and tolerance to a wide variety of soil types would make this species particularly useful for coastal gardens.

Habit



Flowers



Fruit



Distribution