

## *Anthocercis littorea*

YELLOW TAILFLOWER

Labill.

**Flowering period:** January–December.

**Description:** Erect to rarely sprawling shrub, 0.6–3 m high, often branching from the base and occurring in locally dense stands in the first 3–5 years following disturbance such as fire. Leaves thick and often fleshy, 4 cm long, with entire margins. Flowers yellow with brown to maroon striations and narrow, spreading lobes on the petals. Capsule a beak-like fruit that splits to release numerous small brown, long-lived seeds.

**Pollination:** Pollinated by a variety of insects.

**Distribution:** Coastal species from Carnarvon to Israelite Bay on dunes (both calcareous and siliceous), limestone and near-coastal sandplains. Often locally common and forming thickets following fire.

**Propagation:** From seed treated with smoke water or aerosol smoke and sown into a free-draining seed-raising mix. Possible to broadcast seed; however, effectiveness of the method requires further research.

**Uses in restoration:** A potentially useful nurse species (protecting developing understorey species) in soil stabilisation work in secondary and tertiary dune areas due to its rapid but sparse growth habit and short life expectancy (often less than 5 years).

**Notes:** Potential as a water-wise plant with the attractive flowers produced over an extended period.



Habit



Flowers



Thicket after fire



Distribution