

Native Orchid Species of the Toowoomba area

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Mrs Joyce Leyden and the late Mrs Charlotte (Lottie) Lehman compiled the following information over many years, travelling thousands of kilometres spending almost every weekend covering an area in a radius of 100 kilometres of Toowoomba. We sincerely thank Joyce and Lottie and the many others who 'Tagged' along assisting with the finding and identification of these forest wonders. The site locations have been omitted for obvious reasons, all our native orchids are protected under state laws so when you find them, enjoy them in their natural habitat and take home only photos and memories.

Nature has provided these fascinating Orchids with their unique colourful sweet-scented blooms. Artificially propagated plants of many of these species are available from Nurseries and they can be grown quite successfully under cold growing bush-house conditions, and once established need very little attention, and only light fertilizing.

EPIPHYTIC and LITHOPHYTIC SPECIES

Bulbophyllum

***Bulbophyllum aurantiacum* (Syn. *B. shillerianum*)**

Plant grows into small bunches of pendulous strands with thick fleshy leaves. Numerous flowers appear along the strands, usually cream or pale green near the base, the remainder red or orange. One form has all yellowish green flowers. May flower any month, but mainly April to July.

Bulbophyllum bracteatum

Pseudobulbs are usually very close, glossy hellowish to dark green with depressed globular. Size is intermediate between *B.exiguum* and *B. elisae*. Flower spike bears numerous mottled purplish cream flowers in Spring.

Bulbophyllum crassulifolium

Massed creeping plant with small thick leaves. Orange tipped, small cupped shaped white flowers occurring between September and November.

Bulbophyllum elisae (pineapple orchid)

Plant has wrinkled, knobby bulbs with long, thin narrow leaves. Green wing-like flowers, or rarely reddish purple, flowering between May and November.

Bulbophyllum exiguum

Small crinkled or round pseudo-bulbs, growing in great masses, with small dark green oblong leaves. Numerous small pale green to creamy white flowers from March to May.

Bulbophyllum globuliforme

A rare species with very tiny pseudo-bulbs, found growing on branches of hoop-pine. The thread-like leaf is shorter than the bulbs. The flower is about 1/8 inch long, white or cream with pale yellow lip, flowering October - November.

Bulbophyllum minutissimum

Slightly larger bulbs than Globuliforme, growing into extensive masses.. The is lance-shaped. The solitary flower has red striped petals giving the appearance it is all red. Flowers October - November.

Bulbophyllum weinthalii (hoop-pine orchid)

The densely packed pseudobulbs grow on hoop-pine trees, the new bulbs having a white sheath. The plant bears a large spectacular cream flower which is heavily marked with reddish-brown or purple spots. Flowers during March and April.

Cymbidium

Cymbidium canaliculatum (banana orchid)

A very hardy orchid with large hard bulbs and leaves. It thrives in full sunlight with moderate watering. The large spikes contain numerous flowers which vary from pure green to dark reddish brown, plain or mottled. Grows best in old rotted wood. Flowers in Spring.

Cymbidium madidum (buttercup orchid)

Large, softer bulbs with drooping bright green leaves. It has a long drooping flower spike with numerous golden green to dark brown flowers. Usually flowers

late Spring.

***Cymbidium suave* (grassy orchid)**

This species does not have pseudobulbs, but slender woody stems with long soft drooping leaves. The spike contains numerous flowers varying in colour from light, golden and brownish green with a dark reddish brown lip. Likes to be potted in old rotted wood and not overwatered. Flowers late Spring.

Dendrobium

***Dendrobium aemulum* (ironbark orchid)**

Plant has two distinct growth forms. Long pseudobulbs grow in more sheltered areas on Brush Box, whilst the shorter stouter plants with reddish stems grow on the Iron Bark trees. The flowers are feathery-like, white or pale cream with some purple marking on the labellum, turning a deep pink colour before withering. Flowers very prolific even from the leafless bulbs, from July to September.

***Dendrobium beckleri* (Syn. *D. schoeninum*) (pencil orchid)**

The stems are very erect on small plants, becoming drooping on larger plants. The leaves are grooved and taper to the tip and remain upright. The very strong sweet-perfumed flowers vary from white to pale mauve with dark purple stripes at the base and purple edges on the lip. Flowers September to November.

***Dendrobium cucumerinum* (cucumber orchid)**

The leaves look like small prickly cucumbers and grows in great masses in dry scrub areas. The red-streaked blossoms vary in colour from green pale yellow to greenish white. Flowering season Summer to Autumn.

***Dendrobium cucumerinum x mortii* (Syn. *D. bowmannii*)**
Referred to as '*Dendrobium Sport*' by Dudley Walters and unfortunately later registered as *D. Limestone*.

This is a Natural Hybrid and a very interesting plant. The stem is intermediate between both parents; the leaves are pendulous, much thicker than *Mortii*, grooved and rough. Flowers vary considerably on each plant, resembling both parents. Flowers February to April.

Dendrobium x Delicatum

A natural hybrid between *D. speciosum* and *D. kingianum*. Like both parents it varies considerably in size and shape, likewise do the flowers. It likes an open potting mix and flowers in Spring.

***Dendrobium gracilicaule* (cane orchid)**

The plant has long slender cane which produce masses of sweet scented yellow to orange cup-shaped flowers speckled with red-brown blotches on the back of sepals. Although the canes may lose their leaves, they still produce flowers during Spring.

***Dendrobium x Gracillimum* (elusive orchid)**

A natural hybrid between *D. speciosum* and *D. gracilicaule*. Intermediate between both parents, varying considerably in growth. Likewise the flowers vary from white to deep yellow, but do not have the brown specks on the backs of the flowers like *D. gracilicaule*. Flowers in Spring.

***Dendrobium kingianum* (pink rock lily)**

The most variable of all the Natives having dozens of different forms, from short to long stems, with flowers varying in colour, shape and size from pure white through pinks to mauves and deep red. Does well in potting mix and flowers in August to October.

***Dendrobium linguiforme* (tongue, tick, thumbnail or button orchid)**

Flat, fleshy tongue-shaped leaves varying in size and shape. The flower spikes bear masses of spidery white to cream, daintly, perfumed flowers during the Spring.

***Dendrobium monophyllum* (lily of the valley orchid)**

Pseudobulbs are yellow-brown and quite rough with solitary green leathery leaf. The yellow bell-shaped flowers have a delightful sweet fragrance, blossoming any month during the year.

***Dendrobium mortii* (Syn. *D. bowmannii*) (small pencil orchid)**

Part of the plant is pendulous whilst part is upright, with long and short slender grooved leaves. The flowers vary from yellow, pale green to pale brown, having a white lip. Produces at least three flowerings during the year.

***Dendrobium pugioniforme* (dagger orchid)**

The plant has very hard fleshy dagger-shaped leaves with sharp points, varying in size. The green coloured flowers with their red-streaked labellums are very spectacular when they bloom in spring.

Dendrobium pugioniforme x tenuissimum

A natural hybrid with characteristics intermediate between both parents. The leaves vary in size, are ribbed, narrow and pointed, with the smaller ones looking like squashed *D. pugioniforme* leaves. Flowers also resemble both parents and appear in Spring.

Dendrobium schneiderae

It tends to grow in small clumps with a bulb-like formation, having a narrow oblong twisted leaf. The small cup-shaped yellow-green flowers with sepals outlined in pink, red or mauve appear from February to April.

***Dendrobium speciosum* (king orchid)**

The largest growing Native building into huge specimens after many years growth in its natural habitat. The large flow spikes bear heavily scented blooms varying in size, shape and colour from pure white to deep golden yellow, with purple or red markings on the labellum. A magnificent sight during spring.

***Dendrobium tenuissimum* (Syn. *D. mortii*) (wire orchid)**

Small pencil orchid having small pendulous grooved leaves varying in size. It is easily distinguished by its red root system. In Springtime it produces a brownish green flower having a white lip with purple blotches.

***Dendrobium teretifolium* (bridal veil)**

A pencil shaped leaf orchid having varied growth forms var. *farfaxii* and var. *aureum* being the most common. The flowers are spidery in appearance, being of various sizes and ranging from white and cream to golden yellow, with purple stripes near the base, var. *aureum* is a nice large golden-yellow form. All flower August to November.

***Dendrobium tetragonum* (spider orchid)**

Remarkable for the shape of its four-sided stem, narrow at the base, widening to form two or four dark green leaves. Bears fragrant spider-like reddish-brown flowers in Spring.

Liparis

Liparis coelogynoides

The smallest *Liparis* Species having thumbnail size pseudobulbs often knobby, with long slender thin leaves. The flowers are small, pale green or yellowish having star-like petals. Flowers November to February.

***Liparis reflexa* (stink orchid)**

Yellowish pseudobulbs which are rather large and have thick fleshy leaves. The yellowish-green flowers have a very unpleasant odour when in a confined area. It flowers from February to June.

Papililabium beckleri

A small plant resembling a half grown *Sarcochilus Dilatatus*. The spray of delicate pink flowers appearing in late winter.

***Parasarcochilus spathulatus* (spoon orchid)**

The plant resembles *Sar.Falcatus*, the leaves being narrow, darker and lightly spotted. Flowers are greenish-brown with cream and purple markings on the labellum. There is also a green specimen with the purple markings, which is not so common. The spoon-shaped lip of the flower can be seen between July and October.

***Plectorrhiza tridentata* (tangle orchid)**

This fascinating orchid has quite long stems with dark green leaves and numerous long tangled roots. The fragrant flowers vary from brown and green to dark and light green, flowering between September and January.

***Rhinerrhiza divitiflora* (raspy-root)**

The plant has dark green rigid leaves and thick rough root system. It produces spikes with numerous feathery-like golden flowers, which unfortunately only last a few days. November is its flowering time.

Sarcochilus

***Sarcochilus ceciliae* (fairy bells)**

The leaves are erect, thick, spotted and channeled, growing like a tuft of grass. The flowers vary in colour from a sparkling pure white through pale pink to deep rose, and having a bell-like appearance. The flowering season is October to January.

Sarcochilus dilatatus

The leaves are almost straight, dark green and sometimes spotted and not very large. The flowers sit upright and are usually pale green to pale brown but sometimes entirely brick-red or entirely green. Flowers mainly September and October.

***Sarcochilus falcatus* (orange blossom)**

The stems of this species bear sickle-shaped leaves, slightly thick and yellowish-green, varying tremendously in shape and size. Likewise the flowers from different areas vary in size, shape and markings. Usually they are snow white with yellow orange markings on the lip and a purple stripe on the back of the sepals. When flowering in spring it has a vanilla fragrance.

Sarcochilus hartmanii

Another variable species in both plant and flower form. Thick, deeply channeled and sickle-shaped leaves. The flower spikes produce many white blooms with maroon spotting near the base, flowering September to November.

***Sarcochilus hillii* (little gem)**

A small plant having round leaves slightly channeled and grass-like. The flowers are sparkling frosty white or pale pink with a hairy lip. It flowers October to December.

Sarcochilus olivaceus

A thin dark green wide leaf, having an olive to old gold flower. Normally flowers November and December.

Sarcochilus weinthalii

The leaves are long and moderately broad. The flowers are either cream or which and heavily blotched with dull purple or purplish red. When it flowers during August to October, it is a magnificent specimen.

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE TERRESTRIAL ORCHIDS

Growing terrestrials or 'groundies' as they are more commonly known as is a very rewarding hobby. There are many factors to be taken into consideration when attempting to grow these orchids, and conditions similar to their natural habitat are ideal. They need a well drained potting mix, and must never be over-watered. After the flowering season the plants die down and the tubers lay dormant, during this period they can be lifted and repotted, ready for the next growing and flowering season.

Acianthus (gnat or pixie caps)

Acianthus exertus. Dark green heart-shaped leaf, purplish-red underneath. A slender plant carrying up to fifteen small reddish-green gnat-like flowers. Flowering period March to August (gnat orchid)

Acianthus fornicatus. Dark green heart-shaped leaf, purplish-red underneath, a slender plant bearing up to fourteen small hooded flowers, reddish-green. Flowering March to September (pixie caps)

Aianthus reniformis. Dark green kidney-shaped leaf, green on both sides, slender plant with up to seven reddish-brown flowers. Flowers from May to October (mosquito orchid)

Caladenia (spider orchids)

Caladenia alba (white caladenia). Slightly hairy leaf, green, usually with one (occasionally two) flowers on the spike. Pure white or pink flowers except for the yellow-orange tip of the labellum. May to October.

Caladenia coerulea (blue caladenia). Slender hairy plant with short narrow green leaf. Solitary bright violet-blue flower. June to September.

Caladenia carnea (pink caladenia or pink fingers). Slightly hairy narrow, upright leaf. one to three pink flowers. August to December.

Caladenia arnea var. *gigantes*. Much larger robust plant with rose pink flowers with a strong musky perfume. July to September.

***Caladenia carnea* var. *pygmaea*.** A diminutive plant having flowers with a deep reddish tint. September to October.

***Caladenia lavigera* (plain-lip spider).** Hairy leaf with hairy stem bearing solitary yellowish flower with dark reddish brown markings. September to December.

***Caladenia dilatata* (green-comb spider).** Slender plant with hairy leaf. Slender hairy stem bearing a large yellowish green red striped flower. August to January.

***Caladenia filamentosa* (daddy-long-legs).** Slender hairy plant with short slender hairy leaf. 1 to 4 large greenish-white, red or deep crimson, sometimes yellow and brown, spider-like flowers. July to October.

***Caladenia iridescens* (bronze caladenia).** Slender plant with small narrow leaf and very striking flowers. The colouring of this small orchid is quite distinctive with its purplish stem bearing 1 to 4 flowers usually a dusty red mingled with iridescent golden tints, to wholly crimson. September to November.

***Caladenia reticulata* (veined spider).** Very heavily channeled leaf. 1 or 2 large pale yellowish green and crimson flowers, sometimes wholly crimson. September to November.

Calanthe

***Calanthe triplicata* (xmas orchid).** A large plant with 2 or 3 broad ribbed leaves forming a short stem from a creeping rhizome. The large flower spike bears numerous delicate white flowers. October to March.

***Caleana* (duck orchid)**

***Caleana major* (flying duck).** Large slender plant with smaller solitary slender reddish leaf and reddish brown or green wiry stem. 1 to 5 reddish brown flowers resembling a flying duck. September to February.

***Caleana minor* (small duck).** Smaller plant with flowers quite different and much smaller. 1 to 7 green flowers tinged with red or red brown. November to January.

Calochilus

***Calochilus campestris* (copper beard).** Robust plant with long narrow erect deeply channeled leaf. 7 to 15 small beard like flowers, yellowish green with reddish brown or purplish markings. September to January.

***Calochilus gracillimus* (slender beard).** Smaller slender plant with narrow deeply channeled leaves. 2 to 8 reddish or purplish brown flowers, densely bearded. November to January.

Calochilus grandiflorus. Large splendor species with erect green channeled leaves reddish at base. Larger flowers, 1 to 10, golden yellow and purple with hairy beard. September to November.

***Calochilus robertsonii* (purplish beard).** Large stout plant with long thin channeled leaf. 1 to 9 flowers with purplish or red brown markings hairy beard. September to January.

Chiloglottis

***Chiloglottis cornuta* (green bird).** Wholly green plant with two leaves. Short flowering stem with solitary green bird like flower with brownish tip. October to January.

***Chiloglottis formicifera* (ant).** Small slender plant with two broad oblong leaves bearing a spike with one small green flower with brown or purplish markings. September to October.

***Chiloglottis reflexa* (autumn bird).** Slender plant with two broad oblong and deeply veined leaves. Small solitary green flower with claret markings, or wholly prune coloured. March to May or anytime.

***Chiloglottis rapeziformis* (broad lip bird).** Plant has two larger long narrow oblong leaves. Solitary flower usually more purplish than green. September to November.

***Corybas* (helmet orchids)**

***Corybas aconitiflorus* (spurred helmet).** Green heart shaped pointed leaf, purplish red underneath. Dark prune coloured, reddish or greenish, rarely white, helmet like flower. March to July.

***Corybas dilataus* (veined helmet).** Green heart shaped leaf, frosty beneath. Flower standing erect above leaf, dark reddish purple and green frilly flower. June to December.

***Corybas fimbriatus* (fringed helmet).** Thick textured, rounded small green heart

shaped leaf with short tip and green underneath. Large fringed purplish red helmet like flower. May to August.

Corybas pruinosis. All green roundish leaf with small point. Greyish green flower with purplish red markings. April to July.

Corybas uniguiculatus (small helmet). Small strongly ribbed heart shaped green leaf, purplish underneath. Small deep reddish purple flower with little finger nail like edges. May to October.

Cryptostylyus (tongue orchid). Renowned for its unusual pollination by the Wasp.

Cryptostylyus recta (bonnet). Slender robust plant with 1 to 3 large wide leaves on a stem. Large flowers, 2 to 12, green with purplish and red brown stripes. September to February.

Cryptostylyus leptochila (small tongue). Slender stout plant with 2 or 3 leaves, green with the underneath being brown or purplish red. Purple flower stem carried numerous small green flowers tinged with pink. December to February.

Cryptostylyus reflexa. Plant grows on a rhizome having up to four tapered oblong leaves, ribbed and on a stem. Up to 12 pale greenish yellow flowers, with pale reddish brown long lip. August to November.

Cryptostylyus subulata (duck). Has longer leaves and grows taller, with the leaf partly backed by purple. Stem bears about seven large green and red purple flowers. October to March.

Dipodium. This orchid is a saprophyte living on dead organic material and is almost impossible to grow under cultivation, and therefore better left in its natural habitat.

Dipodium. hamiltonianum. Tall, leafless plant with large flowers ranging from bright yellow to yellow-green with red spots or streaks. October to February.

Dipodium. punctatum (hyacinth orchid). Tall, leafless plant with thick tuberous root system. The hairy brown or purple stem produces numerous pink flowers spotted with purple. November to April.

***Diuris* (donkey orchid or double tails)**

***Diuris abbreviata* (small donkey).** Slender plant with one to three narrow channeled leaves. Stem bears three to eight flowers, yellow and blotched with brown. August to November.

***Diuris alba* (white double tails).** A rare species with white flowers having long tails sometimes suffused with lilac on the inside. September to December.

***Diuris aurea* (golden double tails).** A tall slender species with two narrow leaves, ribbed and deeply channeled, about half the height of the plant. Bears two to five golden flowers with a few brown markings. July to November.

***Diuris citrina*.** Plant has two slender elongated leaves, flowers two to four pale lemon with very dark brown markings. October.

***Diuris colemanae*.** High slender plant with two broad channeled leaves. Flowers two to seven, yellow or pale orange with purple brown markings, and dark green tails. September to October.

***Diuris maculta* (leopard).** Tall slender plant with two or three narrow channeled leaves. Two to eight yellow flowers heavily spotted with distinct dark brown spots. July to November.

***Diuris palachila* (broad-tip duck).** Tall plant with two to eight narrow leaves with one to three yellow flowers with a few brown markings, dots or blotches. August to November.

***Diuris platichila*.** Tall plant with two narrow leaves. Flowers are pale yellow spotted with brown. October.

***Diuris punctata*.** Tall slender plant with one to four leaves, long and channeled. Two to ten fragrant flowers usually lilac or purple, sometimes white, rarely yellow, but sometimes with darker spotting. September and November.

***Diuris punctata* var. *longissima*.** Fine, small slender plant with two fine channeled leaves. Bears about four pale dull purple flowers with brown, purplish and white markings. January to February.

***Diuris secondaflora*.** This species has all its flowers on one side and all point in the one direction. The six or more flowers are yellow with red-brown spots.

October.

Diuris ulphurea (tiger). Tall slender plant with one to three long narrow channeled leaves. Three to eight yellow flowers blotched with brown. August to November.

Eriochilus

Eriochilus cuculatus (parsons bands). The short stem which grows from an onion-shaped bulb, is clasped by a broad light green leaf at the base, usually undeveloped at flowering time. One to five flowers, white to pale pink and bright pink. December to May.

Eriochilus dilatatus (white bunny). Small slender variable plant with the leaf at the middle of the stem. One to three, sometimes more, hairy whitish flowers with red markings. March to June.

Galeola

Galeola cassythoides (climbing orchid). Leafless saprophyte, climbing plant with deep brown stem, growing up to twelve feet high. The numerous case-shaped flowers are pale yellow with greenish brown markings, making a magnificent specimen when in full bloom. Difficult to establish and keep growing and therefore better to be left in its natural habitat. September to November.

Gastrodia

Gastrodia sesamoides (cinnamon bells or potato orchid). A leafless saprophyte having numerous bell-shaped flowers, brown and white. September to February.

Glossodia (wax-lip orchid)

Glossodia major (parson in the pulpit). Slender hairy plant with long lance-like hairy leaf at base. Large flowers, one or two, usually purple or mauve. August to November.

Glossodia minor (small was-lip). Smaller version of *g. major*, with a solitary mauve, or occasionally white flower. July to November.

Lyperanthus.

Lyperanthus.suaveolens (brown beaks). Tall plant with large round tubers, long whitish green, narrow leaf. Two to eight sweetly scented flowers, dark reddish to brownish. August to November.

Microtis (ear or mignonette orchid).

Microtis oblonga (sweet onion). Long, thin slender onion-like leaf and very small yellowish green flowers. October to January.

Microtis parviflora (slender onion). Long thin leaf usually longer than the flower spike. Numerous small green to golden green flowers. October to February.

Microtis unifolia (common onion). Long slender bent leaf, with flower spike bearing numerous tiny green flowers. October to January.

Orthoceras

Orthoceras strictum (birds mouth or horned orchid). Two to five long channeled narrow leaves, sheathing at the base. One to nine green to yellowish brown flowers, occasionally a rare green form. October to January.

Prasophyllum (leek-leafed orchid)

Prasophyllum acuminatum. A rare leafless species, with stem having a sheathing bract about mid-way. Six to sixteen small dark reddish brown flowers streaked with purple lines. December to May.

Prasophyllum archeri (variable midge). Leafless, with bract on stem. Two to fifteen pale yellow and green flowers with light brown red or purplish markings. December to June.

Prasophyllum australe (austral leek). Tall slender plant with cylindrical leaf sheathing the spike. The small yellowish green flowers with tints of white, brown and green, surround the stem. September to January.

Prasophyllum fimbriatum (fringed midge). Plant has a sheathing bract on the

stem. Bears numerous colourful flowers, green, with petals marked with red-purple stripes. January to May.

Prasophyllum flavum (yellow leek). Large plant with dark purplish black sheathed leaf and stem. Numerous yellow or green flowers with purplish-brown markings, surround the stem. October to February.

Prasophyllum gracile (graceful leek). Tall plant with sheath leaf. Numerous flowers, yellowish green, brownish, or even dark purple. September to January.

Prasophyllum morrisii (bearded midge). Robust slender plant, leafless except for small bract below the spike. Numerous bearded flowers, dark purple or prune or green with purplish markings. December to May.

Prasophyllum nigricans (midge or black leek). Leafless plant with sheathing bract on purple stem. Numerous green flowers with purplish markings, or wholly purplish black.
January to May.

Prasophyllum odoratum (scented leek). Tall plant with reddish-green leaf sheathing stem, numerous strongly perfumed pink and white flowers. August to February.

Prasophyllum patens (broad-lip leek). Slender plant with erect sheath leaf. Light green and brown flowers tinged with prune and pink. September to February.

Prasophyllum rufum (red midge). Leafless plant with sheath on bract. Small flowers, green and reddish brown to dark purplish red. January to May.

***Pterostylis* (greenhoods)**

Pterostylis acuminata (sharp greenhood). Leaves in a basal rosette. Large solitary flower, green with reddish brown tips and erect wings. March to July.

Pterostylis alveata. A small form resembling *p.obtusa*.

Pterostylis baptistii (king greenhood). Large plant with long basal leaves. Large solitary flower, white with green lines and brown markings. August to

November.

Pterostylis boormannii. Wholly green robust plant with thick rosette leaves at base . Two to six flowers, red-brown and green. October to November.

Pterostylis curta (blunt greenhood). Sturdy plant with two to five basal leaves in a rosette. Solitary green flower with pale red-brown markings. July to October.

Pterostylis ycnocéphala (swan greenhood). Leaves crowded and numerous in a basal rosette, often withered at flowering time. Two to sixteen bright green flowers, small, and in a spiral raceme. August to January.

Pterostylis daintreana. Small green leaves in a rosette in tufts at base of stem. Three to ten white flowers with fine green stripes. March to July.

Pterostylis decurva (summer greenhood). Two to five leaves on stem which is separate to the flower spike, which has four or five stem bracts, a solitary translucent white flower with green stripes and reddish brown on the tip. October.

Pterostylis falcata (sickle greenhood). Plant has four or five basal leaves, sometimes absent. Solitary flower, white with green lines and light brown markings. September to January.

Pterostylis fischii. Up to five leaves in a rosette distinct from flowering stem which has small leaf-like bracts. Large solitary flower with green and rufous stripes on a translucent whitish background. March to July.

Pterostylis ibbosa ssp. *mitchellii*. Large bunch of basal leaves often withered at flowering time. One to five erect reddish flowers. August to November.

Pterostylis grandiflora (superb, cobra or long-tongued greenhood). Basal pointed leaf rosette separate from flowering stem, which has six to nine long thin leaves as sheath bracts. Large solitary flower, translucent white with fine green stripes and rich red-brown markings on a flatish hood. A very striking orchid aptly nick-named "cobra greenhood". May to July.

Pterostylis hamata. Basal leaves withered at flowering time. Small brown-tipped leaves on stem bearing several green flowers with rufous markings, or wholly green. August to November.

Pterostylis hildae. Two or three long basal leaves with a solitary flower almost solid green tinged with light brown. March to October.

Pterostylis hispidula. Curly ground-level leaves with rough stem leaves. Solitary small green flower with long tip and red stripe. May

Pterostylis longicurva. Small plant with solitary green flower having dark green or brown stripes. April to June.

Pterostylis longifolia (tall greenhood). Tall slender plant with basal rosette which is absent at flowering time. Long narrow stem leaves. Numerous green flowers. April to November.

Pterostylis mutica (midget greenhood). Small plant with numerous rosette leaves at base that may wither at flowering time. Numerous green flowers. July to January.

Pterostylis nutans (nodding greenhood). Four to five longish basal leaves in rosette form. Large solitary flower wholly green except for pale reddish brown tip. June to October.

Pterostylis nutans* var. *hispidula. Smaller form of *Pt. Nutans* with hispid flowers. June to October.

Pterostylis obtusa (blunt tongue greenhood). Leaves form rosette at base and the flower spike is separate with bract-like leaves. Bears one green flower with brown tip and occasional brown stripes, and has erect brown tipped wings. February to June.

Pterostylis ophioglossa (snake tongued greenhood). Leaves in a small basal rosette. Solitary broad flower, rather large, green and white with brown stripes. April to July.

Pterostylis ophioglossa* var. *collina. Similar plant to *oph.* but having conspicuous reddish brown flowers, sometimes smaller. March to August.

Pterostylis parviflora (tiny greenhood). One or more growths of small rosette leaves on stem base, with flower stem separate. Numerous small green flowers with darker green or brown stripes. January to December.

Pterostylis pedoglossa (prawn greenhood). Three to six leaves in base rosette with leaf like bracts on stem. Solitary wholly green flower with red brown tip.

March to July.

Pterostylis peduncalata (maroon greenhood). Three to six fleshy leaves in a basal rosette. Solitary green flower with deep reddish brown markings. July to October.

Pterostylis prominens syn. *rufa*. Deep red form of *Pt.rufa*. September to December.

Pterostylis reflexa (small Autumn greenhood). Small basal rosette leaves not present at flowering. Stem has small leaf bracts. Large green flower with red-brown markings. May to June.

Pterostylis revoluta (Autumn greenhood). Large basal rosette with pointed leaves separate to the flower spike. A solitary large green and white flower with darker green lines and light brown markings. March to June.

Pterostylis rufa (ruddy hood). Green leaves in basal rosette, sometimes withered. One to ten small green flowers with red-brown and grey markings. September to December.

Pterostylis rufa ssp. *aciculiformis*. Similar to *pt.rufa* but with pale green rusty brown markings. September to December.

Pterostylis russellii. Only found once, unfortunately no record kept.

Pterostylis squamata. Plant has a group of broad leaves at ground level, up to four green to yellow and red-brown flowers bunched at the top of the stem. August to November.

Pterostylis woollsii (long tail greenhood). Rosette stalked leaves often withered at flowering. One to four large green flowers with rufous markings and long tails. October to December.

Spiranthes (lades tresses).

Spiranthes sinensis. Large robust plant growing from elongated conical tubers and has three to five narrow leaves from the base of the plant. The spike is usually spiral with small pink or white flowers. October to March.

Thelymitra (sun orchids)

***Thelymitra aristata* (scented sun).** Sturdy plant with sheath leaf. Numerous large fragrant flowers in shades of purple, mauve or pink. August to November.

***Thelymitra ixiodes* (dotted sun).** Robust plant with thin channeled leaf. Large flowers, violet, mauve or blue to pink and white. Upper petals marked with darker spots. August to November.

***Thelymitra media* (tall sun).** Tall robust plant with long thick channeled and ribbed leaf. Number of medium size flowers, pale blue to deep blue with purplish markings. October to January.

***Thelymitra nuda* (plain sun).** Widely channeled broad leaf with numerous smaller flowers, blue, pink or mauve. August to November.

***Thelymitra pauciflora* (slender sun).** Narrow thick channeled, long sheathing leaf. White, pale pink, blue to purple flowers appearing August to December.

***Thelymitra rubra* (salmon or pink sun).** Channeled deep green leaf with stem deep purplish or crimson. Glowers one to four ruby-red, salmon or pale pink rarely pale yellow with reddish markings. September to December.