Fabaceae
Hardenbergia violacea
False Sarsaparilla

ALA Local Natives
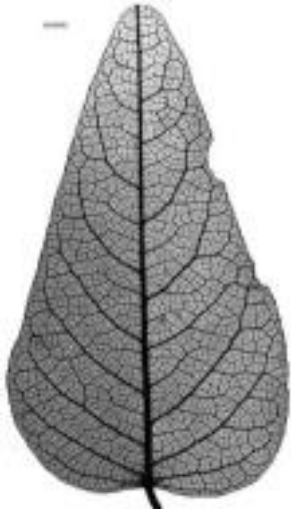
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Field Botanist

M Fox

S Snow

TYMOLOGY	(hard-en-BER-jee-a) After Countess von Hardenberg sister of Baron von Huegel or bergia = PJ. Bergius 1730-1790 Swedish Botanist; The species violacea = violet flowers
LIFEFORM	Creeper 2 m long
STATUS	Widespread Qld, NSW, Vic, SA: Uncommon at each site
HABITAT	Open forest, rainforest margins
TOLERANCES	Well drained to poorly drained soil
LEAVES	Alternate, 12 x 5 cm, lanceolate eucalypt-like single with cordate (heart-shaped) at the base leathery dark green with prominent veins
FLOWERS	Pea-shaped, 7-10 mm, purple petals, green central eye on long racemes or spreading clusters. **Flowering Times**: June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov
FRUIT	Pods, 2-4 cm, flat linear, leathery, dark brown to blackish. 4-5 x 2 mm reniform (kidney shaped) pale brown seeds, 6-8 seeds per pod; Seed weight 22 mg hard-coated seeds ant-adapted dispersal soil-stored seedbank. **Fruiting Times:** Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb
ROOTS	Root lesion: Nematodes
STEM	Twiner with long wiry stems; branches twist around the stems of other plants
ETHNOBOTANY	Boiled leaves make a slightly sweet tea. False Sarsaparilla because the plant was mistaken for Smilax glycophylla (Native Sarsaparilla) Ornamental potential usage in landscaping. Leaves cause a colic-like condition in horses Flowers are dye source give grey-blue to wool.
PESTS	Powdery Mildew, *Phytophthora cinnamomic*
BIRDS	Eastern Spinebill, Double-eyed Fig-parrot
BUTTERFLY	*Zizina labradus* (Common Grass-blue)
BEES	*Megachile sp (*Leafcutter Bee) use leaf sections for nesting
MOTH	*Teia anartoides, Cydia zapyrana, Cryptoptila immersana* (ivy leafroller) *Ectropis excursara, Heliothis punctifera*
INDIGENOUS USE	Roots and underground stems roasted used as food.
ID FEATURE	Leaves 1-foliolate, flowers in groups of 2 along rachis; calyx teeth 0.8-1.1 mm + Pods 2.5-4 cm. Regrowth (seedlings) from surviving rootstocks recorded <1year after fire

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