

Violaceae
Viola banksii
 coastal violet

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ETYMOLOGY

(VY-o-la) Latin name of various sweet scented flowers especially violets; The species banksii After Sir Joseph Banks;

LIFEFORM
STATUS

Creeper 5 cm
 Common and widespread in near coastal sites; recorded as naturalised in moist, shaded forest near Healesville, presumably as a result of dumping of garden waste.

OCCURS
HABITAT
LEAVES

Point Cartwright, Pine Ridge CP, Maroochy River C P Jacobs Well, Ningi Qld, NSW, *Vic
 Coastal cliffs, Watercourses lowland

FLOWERS

Blades, 18-25 x 30-45 mm, broad-reniform, forming rosettes, hairless, margins toothed. Stipules narrow-triangular to broad-triangular, usually with glandular teeth;
 Petals, violet, white, anterior ovate to broadest in middle, large green V-shaped blotch at base, rich violet over half, prominent large white apex, prominently 3-veined, lateral petals widely spreading; **Flowering times** Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb

FRUIT

Fruits, white or pale green, often flecked; Seeds 1.8-2.5 mm long, glossy purplish black.

ROOTS

Fruiting times Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb

STEM

Stoloniferous, sometimes tuber-like swellings formed along subterranean stems

ETHNOBOTANY

Vigorous perennial herb, hairless to pubescent, spreading with stolons

INDIGENOUS USES

Ornamental potential usage in landscaping, as groundcover ideal rockery plant.

COMMENTS

Flowers and leaves edible

ID FEATURE

World has 500 species Aust has 5 species; Frost tolerant

Leaves reniform to orbicular, about as long as wide, often with deep, narrow sinus; Anterior petal broadest in the middle;