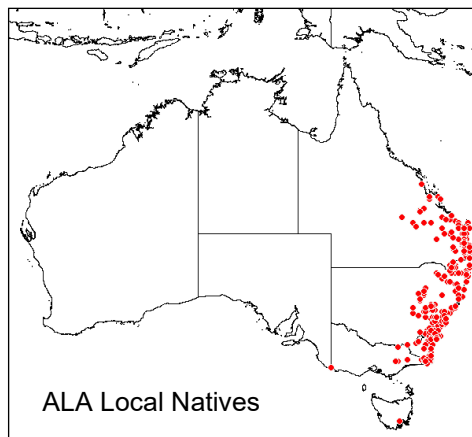
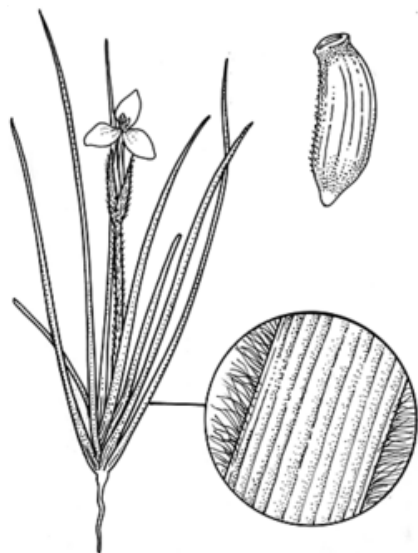


**Iridaceae**  
***Patersonia sericea***  
purple flag iris



**Ann Moran**  
**Field Botanist**



Christopher Brandis iNat

Liz Snow iNat

**ETYMOLOGY**

(pat-er-SO-nee-a) After Liet Col William Paterson 1755-1810 early botanical collector; The species sericea = referring to silky hairs;

**LIFEFORM**

Herb 30cm x 30cm

**OCCURS**

Glasshouse Mt, Stanthorpe Q, Dubbo Laurieton NSW, Vic

**QLD DISTRICTS**

Burnett, Darling Downs, Leichhardt, Moreton, Port Curtis, Wide Bay

**HABITAT**

Coastal Heath

**LEAVES**

Basal, 15-40 cm x 6 mm, narrow flat strap-like, bluish green, smooth to touch, with lower margins hairy especially near the base; young plants with hairy edges.

**FLOWERS**

Purple, 4 cm, deep violet, broadly ovate 3 petals 4-6 sepals, from blackish spathe, surrounded by toughened dark bracts covered in white silk hairs, upper part of flower stem & spathe silky or woolly; Staminoid tube short, trifold. **Flowering Times** Aug, Sept, Oct  
 Capsules, 15-30 mm ovoid-cylindrical, seeds cylindrical, 2.5-3 mm, brown with a waxy bloom, ridged, with large pit; aril absent. **Fruiting Times** June, July, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov

**FRUIT**

**ROOTS**

Root system rhizome or corm.

**TOLERANCE**

Full sun; Drought tolerant.

**STEM**

Perennial tussock of tough narrow lily-like on 55 cm stems.

**ETHNOBOTANY**

Edible rhizomes; Attracts butterflies.

**BUTTERFLY**

*Mesodina halyzia* (Halyzia Skipper), *Mesodina aeluropis* (aeluropis skipper)

**ID FEATURE**

Leaves bluish, strap-like with dark brown silky bracts and basal + Flowers 3-petalled mauve to violet.