



Coastal Rosemary

Westringia fruticosa



Family: Lamiaceae

Shrub to 1.5 m



Distribution: Coastal eastern Australia, but only occurs naturally south of Foster, NSW.

Description: The flowers are white, or blue, and have the upper petal divided into two lobes. This shrub is very tough and grows on cliffs right next to the ocean. The plant's tolerance to a variety of soils, the neatly whorled leaves and all-year flowering make it very popular in cultivation.

Propagation: Grow from soft cuttings.

Habitat: Grows near the sea and harbour foreshores, often on exposed cliffs in skeletal soil. Pest and disease resistant. Fast-growing.

Uses: A good Hedge plant. As a cut flower the stiff straight sprays are surprisingly handsome, especially where a large arrangement is wanted, as quite long sprays live well in water and continue to open their buds for weeks. Yet another use is as an indoor plant - it remains equally fresh in a reasonably cool atmosphere, and continues flowering. Bird attracting.