



Long leaf Hovea or Purple Bush Pea

Hovea longifolia



Family: Fabaceae

Evergreen shrub to 2m with purple flowers.



Distribution: Eastern side of the Great Divide from Victoria to Queensland.

Description: The leaves are linear to oblong, dark green above and paler beneath. In spring, bluish-purple flowers appear in clusters of two or three along the branchlets. Each pod that follows the flowers contains two hard-coated seeds. When the pods ripen they split rapidly and shoot out the seeds for some distance. This is a mechanism to ensure seed dispersal.

Propagation: Seed needs to be soaked in hot water, to soften the hard seed coat, before sowing.

Habitat: Plants flower best in an open, sunny position but can be grown successfully in shady areas.

Uses: Ornamental plantings.