



## Friends of Venus Bay Peninsula Inc

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### Plant of the month: Yellow Sea-lavender *Limonium australe*



*Limonium australe* Yellow Sea-lavender is restricted to mangrove mudflats and saltmarsh communities and can be seen along the shores of Anderson Inlet. It is a small perennial herb with a basal rosette of leaves and erect flowering stems to 50 cm tall. The smooth, leathery leaves are wider towards the tip and grow to 15 cm long by 2.5 cm wide. The flower stems are angular

and the tiny yellow flowers are surrounded by a more conspicuous papery, pale pink calyx, from January to April.



Yellow Sea-lavender, like all saltmarsh plants, is extremely salt-tolerant. It may be propagated from seed and grown in pots in damp soil but better to be enjoyed in its natural habitat.



Sea-lavenders belong in the Plumbaginaceae or leadwort family. The genus *Limonium* comes from the Greek *leimon*, meaning meadow and referring to the saltmarsh habitat in which it grows. *Australe* means southern and indicates this is an Australian species. Photo: Lorraine Norden.