

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower (var. *sericea*). Photographer Jackie Mles



Flowering plant (var. *sericea*). Photographer Jackie Mles



Flowering plant (var. *sericea*). Photographer Don Wood, Hyams Beach, Jervis Bay National Park, NSW



Flower and leaves (var. *longifolia*). Photographer Jackie Mles



Flowering plant (var. *longifolia*). Photographer Don Wood, Hyams Beach, Jervis Bay National Park, NSW

Common name

(var. *longifolia*) Purple-Flag, Dwarf Purple-Flag

(var. *sericea*) Silky Purple-Flag

Family

Iridaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, **woodland**, and **heath**.

var. *longifolia*: Mainly coast and ranges. Occasionally elsewhere.

var. *sericea*: Widespread. No records from the Western Slopes.

Notes

Perennial herb to 0.6 m high. Flower stalks hairy in the upper half. Leaves basal, 15–60 cm long, 1–6 mm wide. **Bracts (spathes)** at the base of the flowers prominently veined, white-**silky** to almost hairless, dark brown to blackish, with brown membranous margins 1–2 mm wide, forming a structure 7–20 mm wide. Flowers blue violet to purple, rarely white, tubular, the tube 15–30 mm long, with 3 **'petals'** 20–30 mm long. Flowers opening one at a time from within the flower base, rarely 2 flowers open at the same time. Flowers winter-spring.

var. longifolia: Leaves 1–2 mm wide, biconvex in cross section, smooth; margins fringed with hairs pointing upwards in diameter the leaf, sometimes almost hairless.

Rare Vic.

PlantNET description: <https://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=in&name=Patersonia~sericea+var.~longifolia> (accessed 2 May 2021)

var. sericea: Leaves 1.5–6 mm wide, flat in cross section and faintly grooved, to cylindrical and prominently grooved; margins hairy or almost hairless, never fringed with hairs pointing upwards in diameter the leaf.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

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