

# Twining Fringe Lily



Scientific name: *Thysanotus patersonii*

Aboriginal name: Tjunguri (Noongar)



Plant habit



Flower and flower buds

## About ...

This fast-growing plant is found throughout many States of Australia and is widespread through the southern half of Western Australia.

This plant grows from seed contained in a dry capsule. The flowers are hermaphrodite, meaning they have both male and female components.

The plant dies back to a tuber after flowering which can be difficult to find. The white edible tubers are between 20 and 50 mm in length. They remain dormant until the following winter.

## Aboriginal Uses

- The tubers, which look like tiny potatoes, are commonly eaten raw or roasted
- The stems and flowers are also edible
- Occasionally, the flowers and stems were roasted, made into powder and eaten with the York Gum
- Other species of *Thysanotus* can also be eaten
- The root is best eaten just before or just after flowering, as it contains more energy at this time

<b>Family</b>	ANTHERICACEAE
<b>Climate</b>	Temperate
<b>Habitat</b>	Grasslands, Riparian scrub and woodland
<b>Form</b>	Perennial climber Height: up to 1 m Leaf and stems die off over Birak (Summer) and come back over Makuru (Winter)
<b>Foliage</b>	Long, spindly stems that either twine around nearby plants or trail along the ground 1 – 2 long thin leaves at the base of the stem Mid to bright green
<b>Flower</b>	Makuru to Kambarang (Winter and Spring) Purple flower with three largish petals surrounded by a 'feather-like' edge, alternate with three narrow sepals

Developed by SERCUL for use with the *Bush Tucker Education Program*.



Used as food



Used as medicine



Used as resources



Local to SW WA

**Caution:** Do not prepare bush tucker food without having been shown by Indigenous or experienced persons. Some bush tucker if eaten in large quantities or not prepared correctly can cause illness.

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ALGAE BUSTER



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