



FACTSHEET

# Coastal Pigface

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**Common Name:** Coastal Pigface

**Scientific Name:** *Carpobrotus virescens*

**Noongar Name:** Bain

**Conservation Status:** All Rottnest Island's flora is protected under the *Rottnest Island Authority Act 1987*.

**Flowering period:** June-January

**Habitat:** Coastal habitat

**Description:**

The Coastal Pigface is a succulent which grows along the ground. A succulent is a type of plant which has thick fleshy soft stems and leaves which feel juicy because of the high water content.

Succulents store water in their stems, leaves and roots and this allows them to live in dry places. The Coastal Pigface has pinkish-purple flowers with a little white in the centre. These flowers are 4-6 cm wide.

**Traditional use:**

The Coastal Pigface was used as a form of hydration by the local Noongar people. Its leaves were chewed and could taste sour or salty depending on the location and season.

**Threats:**

The main threat to Coastal Pigface is habitat destruction caused by:

- Human activity
- Storms
- Changes in sea level
- Weed invasion

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The flowers of the Coastal Pigface are made up of 250-300 stamens surrounded by lots of purple staminodes. A stamen is one of the male organs of a flower and is made of a stalk (filament) and a pollen-bearing portion (anther). A staminode is a stamen which does not produce pollen and often looks like petals.