

WOY WOY CAMPUS

INDIGENOUS GARDEN

Carpobrotus glaucescens (Pig Face)

Description

Carpobrotus glaucescens, also known as Ice Plant or Angular Sea Fig, is a creeping flowering succulent. It is part of the Aizoaceae or stone plants family and is native to South Africa and Australia. There are 6 species native to Australia. Pig Face is a low growing ground cover that has thick fleshy smooth foliage that is triangular in shape. It produces daisy-like flowers during Spring and Summer but also can flower sporadically throughout the year. The colours can come in shades of pink, purple, orange, yellow and white. The flowers will close during overcast or wet days. After flowering the plant will produce a red to purple berry.

Habitat

Pig Face are ideal for rock gardens, planted under trees, in hanging baskets, and used to stabilise steep slopes. They are a great plant if you have dry, rocky and sandy conditions where other plants will not grow.



Indigenous use

The native Pig Face is an edible bush food. The juice from the leaves can be used to soothe stings or burns. The berries can be eaten and are said to taste like salty apples.