



INDIGENOUS GARDEN

Hardenbergia violacea
(Native Sarsaparilla)

Indigenous use

The leaves and berries of the native Sarsaparilla were traditionally used medicinally by Indigenous communities as a tea/infusion, to strengthen their immune system and fight colds.

Description

A tough and easy care climber or ground covering plant, this plant is spectacular when in flower, with many purple sprays of blossom. It blooms from spring through summer, and the plant fixes nitrogen from the air, which is good for the soil. It grows low to around 3 metres wide, and the dense habit smothers weeds once established.



Habitat

A native Australian, *Smilax glycyphylla* is a climber that grows in open forest/littoral rainforests, predominantly on the coast. It can grow in semi-shade or no shade but prefers moist soil.