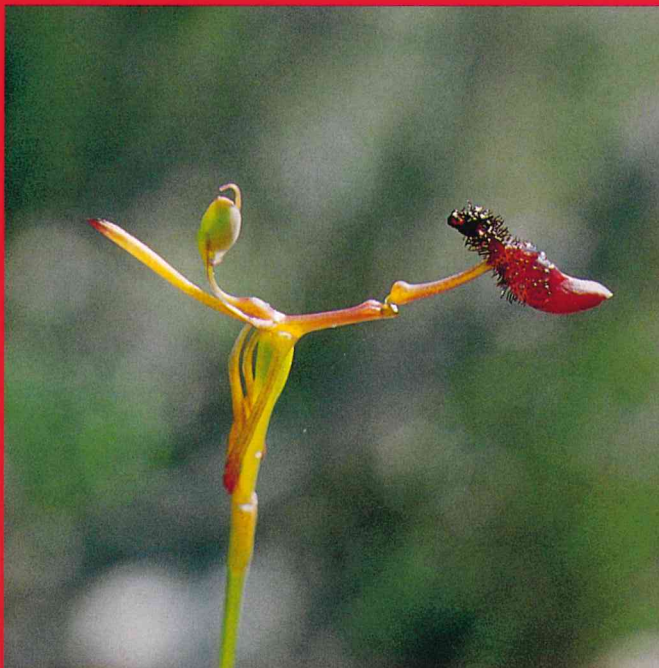


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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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Have you seen this flower?



Drakaea isolata
Lonely hammer orchid

**YES, I HAVE SEEN THIS FLOWER (*Drakaea isolata*) AND WOULD
LIKE TO HELP WITH INFORMATION ON ITS DISTRIBUTION.**

Name: _____

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The lonely hammer orchid is only known from the Pingrup area where it grows in patches of bare white, sandy-clay soil among low shrubs and mallee eucalypts, on a slight rise above saline flats and a large salt lake.

The orchid grows between 10 to 30 cm high. Its wiry stem arises from a single, small dull-green, heart-shaped leaf, one to two cm long and eight to 12 mm wide, that lies flat on the ground. The single, unusual, highly-modified flower is two to three cm long and just three to four mm wide and appears from September to early October. It is commonly known as a hammer orchid because of the hinged, hammer-like lip on the flower. This lip resembles a female thynnid wasp's scent and appearance. Male wasps attempt to fly away with the lip, and in doing so come into contact with the column (a combination of anthers and stigma) and either remove or deposit pollen. Rising salinity and habitat degradation threaten the only known population.

The Department of Conservation and Land Management is working with the community and land managers to conserve the lonely hammer orchid. If populations are found on private property, the Department will assist the landowners in conserving them.

We are interested in finding more populations of this plant in your area. If you have seen this flower, we would like to hear from you.

You can help by returning the detachable form below or by contacting **Bethea Loudon** at the Department's Katanning office, phone: (08) 9821 1296, fax: (08) 9821 2633, email: betheal@calm.wa.gov.au

**Your support and assistance in conserving
Western Australia's threatened flora is greatly appreciated.**



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