

# Plant of the Month

July 2022

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POTM (/in-focus/tag/potm)

## *Darwinia polychroma* Keighery



*Darwinia polychroma* (Harlequin Bell) is a tidy, compact shrub growing to 1.2 m high and featuring a pendulous inflorescence surrounded by shiny, multi-coloured bracts in several overlapping rows. The basal bracts are red with a green tip, while the second layer and inner bracts have a yellow base and grade to yellow-green then red. Together they form a stunning bell-like inflorescence. Flowering occurs in winter and spring, July to September, with a few flowers extending to November.

The species epithet is Greek in origin and means many colours: a reference to the bright multi-hued inflorescence bracts. *Poly* = many and *chromus* = colours.

Harlequin Bell is endemic and one of 16 endangered *Darwinia* species in WA. It is only found in a small area between Perenjori and Carnamah in the Wheatbelt region of Western Australia, where it grows in sandy soils.

Photo: R. Davis

[Find out more about \*Darwinia polychroma\* Keighery.](#)

<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/34763?ref=florabase.ghost.io>

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