

Plant of the Month

September 2022

POTM (/in-focus/tag/potm)

Cosmelia rubra R.Br.



Cosmelia rubra (Spindle Heath) is an erect, spindly shrub, growing to 3 m in height, with hairless flowers and twisted sheathing leaves. Spindle Heath produces a spectacular display of bright, pink-red, tubular flowers sporadically throughout the year.

Cosmelia is a monotypic genus of flowering plants in the family Ericaceae. The sole species is *Cosmelia rubra*, a Western Australian endemic, which can be found in swamp areas from Busselton to east of Albany.

The species name is derived from the Latin *ruber* (red) in reference to its bright red flowers.

Photo: R. Davis

[Find out more about *Cosmelia rubra* R.Br.](#)

<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/6352?ref=florabase.ghost.io>

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Western Australian Herbarium (1998–). Florabase—the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>) (Accessed 29 May 2023).