

Plant of the Month

March 2023

POTM (/in-focus/tag/potm)

Padina elegans Womersley



It being March, we have another seaweed for you. *Padina elegans* (Peacock's Tail) is an unusual species that belongs to the only genus of Australian brown algae that is calcified, which can be seen in the photo as the whitish layer on one surface. Eight species of *Padina* are found in Western Australia, separated by features such as the number of cell layers in the fan-shaped blades and the position of reproductive structures. These can be seen in the photo clustered in dark brown arcs that appear to be erupting through the calcified layer. *Padina elegans* grows on subtidal rock and is known from the Perth region as far north as the Dampier Archipelago.

Photo: J.M. Huisman

[Find out more about *Padina elegans* Womersley](https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/27116?ref=florabase.ghost.io)
(<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/27116?ref=florabase.ghost.io>)

Tags	
All Items (/in-focus)	
General (/in-focus/tag/general)	2
Nuytsia (/in-focus/tag/nuytsia)	9
Plant of the Month (/in-focus/tag/potm)	29

Florabase is produced by the staff of the **Western Australian Herbarium** (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/wa-herbarium>), Biodiversity and Conservation Science, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Publication or other use of content on this site is unauthorised unless that use conforms with the **copyright statement** (</help/copyright>).

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).