

Plant of the Month

June 2023

POTM (/in-focus/tag/potm)

Hakea conchifolia Hook.



Hakea conchifolia (Shell-leaved Hakea) is a compact lignotuberous shrub growing to 1 m high, with white to sometimes pale pink flowers from June to August. The unique blue-green leaves are shell-shaped, prickly, and fold along the leaf axis.

Joseph Hooker described *Hakea conchifolia* in 1842, deriving the name from the Latin words *concha* (shell) and *folius* (leaf). Shell-leaved *Hakea* belongs to the Cucullata Group, which comprises three species: [H. cucullata](https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/2150?ref=florabase.ghost.io) (<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/2150?ref=florabase.ghost.io>), *H. conchifolia*, and [H. smilacifolia](https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/2205?ref=florabase.ghost.io) (<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/2205?ref=florabase.ghost.io>), the last two similar in appearance and sometimes confused. Both species have distinctive shell shaped leaves. However, *H. conchifolia* differs from *H. smilacifolia* in being lignotuberous and much more floriferous with 15–18 flowers per

racemes, whereas *H. smilacifolia* is non-lignotuberous and has 5–8 flowers per raceme.

Shell-leaved Hakea occurs in a variety of heathland habitats between Perth to Dongara and as far inland as Eneabba.

Photo: R. Davis

[Find out more about Hakea conchifolia Hook.](#)

<https://florabase.dbca.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/2143?ref=florabase.ghost.io>

Tags	
All Items (/in-focus)	
General (/in-focus/tag/general)	2
Nuytsia (/in-focus/tag/nuytsia)	10
Plant of the Month (/in-focus/tag/potm)	38

Florabase is produced by the staff of the **Western Australian Herbarium** (<https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/science/research-tools-and-repositories/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.dbca.wa.gov.au/> (<https://florabase.dbca.wa.gov.au/>) (Accessed 9 February 2024).