PLANT FACT SHEET

Burnettia cuneata Lindl.

GENUS *Burnettia* **FAMILY** Orchidaceae

COMMON NAMES Lizard orchid

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tuber, Root

The tuber is eaten after roasting.

DESCRIPTION

A very small orchid without leaves. The stem is dark purple and has scales. It is about 10 cm long. There are 3-4 flowers. These are white or pink inside. They are brownish with red stripes outside. They only open wide for 1-2 days. Plants flower after fires.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in coastal heath and scrub. It is often on damp or poorly drained peaty soil. It is best in a partly shaded position. It is damaged by drought and frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It emerges after fire. Plants can be grown by division. It grows best near Melaleuca plants.

NOTES

It is a rare plant.

REFERENCES

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 177

Tasmanian Herbarium Vascular Plants list p 70

Woolmore, E et al, 2002, King Island Flora: A Field Guide. p 92

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/0a0ad40f-fdd2-4e7c-aae5-fe759f70b098