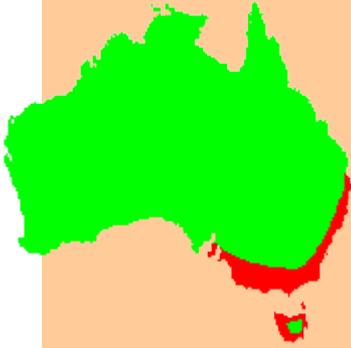


Dillwynia glaberrima



Family:	Fabaceae subfamily Faboideae
Distribution:	Widespread in southern Australia in heath and open forest.
Common Name:	No generally accepted common name
Derivation of Name:	<i>Dillwynia</i> ...after Lewis Dillwyn, an English botanist. <i>glaberrima</i> ... From Latin <i>glaber</i> , without hair, referring to the leaves.
Conservation Status:	Not considered to be at risk in the wild.

General Description:

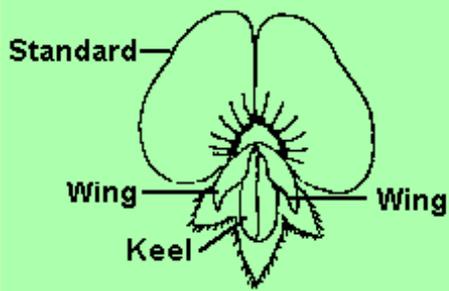
Dillwynia is an endemic genus of 20 or more species which are found in all Australian states. All are small to medium-sized shrubs having typical "pea"-shaped flowers usually in shades of yellow or orange. Similar closely related plants include *Pultenaea*, *Phyllota*, *Aotus* and *Daviesia*. Pea flowers consist of 4 petals; the "standard", the "keel" and two "wings" as shown in the diagram.



Dillwynia glaberrima

Photo: Brian Walters

The flowers of *Dillwynia* have a "standard" which is broader than it is high. These plants (as well as *Acacia*) are often colonising species which germinate quickly after fires to stabilize the soil and to provide nitrogen (all are legumes able to "fix" nitrogen from the atmosphere in nodules on their roots).



Typical "pea" flower

Dillwynia glaberrima is a small shrub to about 1.5 metres high by 1 metre wide. The small, linear leaves are about 5-20 mm long and rounded in cross-section (terete). The flowers, which appear in spring are about 10 mm in diameter and are yellow with an orange throat. They occur in masses and provide a colourful display. After flowering, the hard seeds develop in small pods.

D. glaberrima is occasionally grown by enthusiasts but is not in wide cultivation. It is suited to well drained soils in a sunny or semi-shaded position and will tolerate heavy pruning. It is tolerant of at least moderate frost.

Propagation from seed is relatively easy following pre-treatment to break the physical dormancy provided by the impervious seed coat. Pre-treatment can be carried out by abrasion or by the use of boiling water (further details can be found in the [Seed Propagation](#) page). The seed retains viability for many years. Cuttings strike reasonably well using firm, current season's growth.