



## Friends of Venus Bay Peninsula Inc

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### Plant of the month: Twining Glycine *Glycine clandestina*



Twining Glycine *Glycine clandestina* is a delicate scrambling herb that is inconspicuous apart from when it is flowering. The trifoliate leaves are dimorphic in that the lower leaflets are much shorter (5-30 mm x 2-10 mm) than the upper leaflets (10-80 mm x 2-10 mm). The small mauve pea-flowers are held in racemes of 4-18 flowers, from August to February, followed by narrow pods to 50 mm long with shiny dark seeds. At Venus Bay it is found in Cape Liptrap Coastal Park at Point Smythe and along Anderson Inlet. It occurs in all states except Northern Territory.

Twining Glycine favours moist well-drained soils in a shady or semi-shady position. It tolerates salt winds and dryness once established. The attractive flowers are a source of pollen for native insects and the leaves are a food plant for caterpillars. Propagation is from scarified seed or cuttings.

*Glycine* belongs in the Fabaceae or Pea Family and the genus name comes from the Greek *glykys*, sweet. The species name *clandestina* means 'bearing hidden invisible flowers'.

Photo: Lorraine Norden. More Venus Bay flora information is available at [www.friendsofvenusbaypeninsula.org.au](http://www.friendsofvenusbaypeninsula.org.au)

