



Friends of Venus Bay Peninsula Inc

ABN 17 536 241 485

PO Box 244 Venus Bay Vic 3956

Website: www.friendsofvenusbaypeninsula.org.au

Email: friendsofvbp@gmail.com

Plant of the month: *Tiny Star Pauridia glabella* var. *glabella*



Tiny Star *Pauridia glabella* is a perennial tufting herb with a bulbous corm and a few narrow, channeled, grass-like leaves 2-25 cm long and 0.5-1mm wide. The single or double yellow flowers are 5-7 mm wide on stems that can be as long as the leaves, from July to December, although the above photo was taken in April. The plant is tiny as the common name suggests and is easy to miss as the flowers close up in dull weather. There are two varieties of *Pauridia glabella* but only variety *glabella* occurs in Victoria. *Pauridia* was previously known as *Hypoxis*. Tiny Star is found in the southern states from Western Australia to New South Wales in lowland areas. It is not commonly known at Venus Bay but may be underreported due to its cryptic nature.

Tiny Star regenerates from its bulbous rootstock after autumn rains, flowering quickly. Keep a look-out for the tiny yellow star flowers in moist areas on sunny days after rain. It grows in semi-shade.

Pauridia belongs in the *Hypoxidaceae* family. The genus name *Pauridia* comes from the Greek *pauros* or *pauron*, meaning small and referring to the small habit of some species in the genus. The species name *glabella* is from the Latin *glaber* meaning smooth or hairless. Photo: Lorraine Norden. For more information visit www.friendsofvenusbaypeninsula.org.au