



## Friends of Venus Bay Peninsula Inc

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### Plant of the month: Shrubby Glasswort *Tecticornia arbuscula*



Shrubby Glasswort *Tecticornia arbuscula* is a rounded, many-branched shrub, growing to 2 metres high by 1-2 metres wide. The succulent and segmented branches are grey-green with reddish tinges. The tiny white flowers occur in a spike, in fused bracts in axils of the end stem segments (called articles), from July to December. Shrubby Glasswort is a component of the saltmarsh community of Anderson Inlet at Venus Bay and is also found in estuarine and coastal areas of the southern states of Australia, from Western Australia to New South Wales.

Shrubby Glasswort is a halophyte, a plant that is adapted to moist or wet saline soils. It grows in full sun. Propagation is from seed.

*Tecticornia arbuscula* belongs in the Chenopodiaceae or Saltbush family. The genus name *Tecticornia* is from the Latin *tectum*, meaning roof, referring to the bracts, and *cornu*, meaning horn; alluding to its relationship to *Salicornia*, Glasswort. The species name *arbuscula* means a small tree.

Photo: Lorraine Norden. For more information visit [www.friendsofvenusbaypeninsula.org.au](http://www.friendsofvenusbaypeninsula.org.au)

