



Two-bristle Greenhood Orchid
Pterostylis biseta
A native treasure of Moorunde

Natural History Society of South Australia Inc.

Horehound

Marrubium vulgare



Mature plant



Horehound infestation around wombat burrow (dried plants)



Leaf detail



Seed head



Juvenile plant

Declared plant in South Australia 2013

Native to Eurasia, Europe, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean including North Africa. Introduced as a garden and medicinal herb, and used in beer making; naturalised in Australia by 1840s.

Description

Bushy perennial plant, 30 to 80 cm high, sharply aromatic when crushed, covered with dense whitish hairs.

Stems four-sided, up to 60 cm high, stout, branched, upright to trailing, densely hairy, whitish, and woody at the base.

Leaves opposite, broadly oval to round, 1-3 cm diameter, wrinkled, the margins irregularly lobed, upper surface bluish-green, lower surface white-woolly, and stalks at least half as long as the blades. Veins are sunken on upper surface and prominent underneath.

Flowers white, 6-10 mm long, arranged densely around the stems in the leaf axils, Sep-Mar. Clusters of flowers dry to form brown burrs with small hooked spines.

Seeds brown or black, ovoid or triangular, slightly roughened, 1-2 mm long, up to 4 per capsule.

Roots branched with a woody taproot or rootstock and numerous fibrous lateral roots.

(www.dpti.sa.gov.au)

