

more or less densely hairy on both surfaces, prominently ridged along the veins on the lower surface.

Inflorescence an erect axillary raceme 50-200mm long including the 50-100mm peduncle. Flowers borne in clusters of 1-5 at intervals of 15-30mm in the axils of deciduous bracts, each flower on a 2-3mm pedicel. Calyx 4-6mm long, more or less hairy, the two dorsal sepals joined almost to the tip, the sepals otherwise joined for c. $\frac{1}{2}$ their length. Standard dark purple, c. 10mm tall, 10mm wide. Wings dark purple, c. 12mm long from base of calyx, the same length as the dark purple keel.

Pod 25-40mm long, 5-6mm wide, straight, hairless, very dark brown when ripe, containing c. 5-7 seeds. Seeds with a prominent strophiole.

Distribution: G.N., G.S., Ma. Also N.T., W.A., S.A. Western spinifex sandplains.

Notes: Nodulates, self-pollinating. Not palatable to stock.

References: 3, 53, 136, 172, 333.

Kennedia rubicunda

Red Kennedy pea

Vigorous trailing or twining perennial, at times ascending to several metres. Stems densely covered with short brown spreading hairs or hairless. Stipules triangular, 3-6mm long, spreading, persistent. Petiole 30-90mm long, rachis 7-20mm long; stipels 1-3mm long. Leaflets dark green, 30-150mm long, 20-50mm wide, the laterals a little smaller, broadest at or below the mid-point, the margins curving to the broadly angled tip, densely hairy to almost hairless on both surfaces, the veins prominent on the undersurface, mucronate.

Inflorescence a 1-7 flowered 10-70mm axillary

Kummerowia

Annual herb with soft digitate leaves, with three leaflets. Flowers small, pink to purple or lacking petals, with 4 bracteoles. Stamens 10, 9 filaments joined in a dorsally split tube, 1 free. Style hairless. Pod 1-seeded, indehiscent.

Kummerowia striata

Japanese lespedeza, Japanese clover

Annual with prostrate or ascending stems to 0.5m



Kennedia rubicunda, Cult.

raceme, the flowers clustered towards the tip of the peduncle. Flowers borne in clusters of 1-3 within the axils of c. 7mm rather deciduous bracts, each flower on a 10-20mm pedicel. Calyx 10-12mm long, densely covered with adpressed silky hairs, the two dorsal sepals joined almost to the tip, the sepals otherwise joined for c. $\frac{1}{2}$ their length. Standard dark red with a purple area at the base, c. 25mm tall, 20mm wide, strongly reflexed. Wings dark red, c. 40mm long from base of calyx, the same length as the dark red keel.

Pod 75-105mm long, 8-10mm wide, rather flattened, usually densely covered with spreading brown hairs, containing c. 15 seeds. Seeds c. 5.5mm long, 3mm wide, kidney-shaped, plump, grey-green, with a prominent white strophiole.

Distribution: Bur., Co., D.D., Lei., Mo., N.K., W.B. Also N.S.W., Vic., Tas. A common plant of moister woodland situations in the south-east.

Notes: Considered to have useful drought and frost tolerance but not very productive. Self-pollinating.

References: 17, 23, 25, 26, 41, 136, 154, 192, 196, 225, 287, 311, 313, 316, 331.

long. Stems often reddish, covered with short white downward-pointing hairs. Stipules 2-4mm long, adpressed, persistent but becoming brown and papery. Petiole 2-4mm long; stipels lacking.



Kummerowia striata, Mt Nebo, 27°24'S, 152°49'E.

Leaflets 6-15mm long, 2-8mm wide, broadest above the mid-point, the margins tapering to the base, the tip broadly rounded, sparsely hairy along the margins and along the mid-vein on the underside, the lateral nerves close together and distinctly parallel when viewed from above, minutely mucronate.

Flowers in axillary clusters of 1-6, each flower on a 1-3mm pedicel with 4 persistent bracteoles beneath the calyx. Calyx 2.5-3.5mm long, hairy

along the margins of the teeth, the two dorsal sepals joined for c. $\frac{3}{4}$ their length, the sepals otherwise joined for c. $\frac{1}{2}$ their length. Standard pink, c. 2mm wide, 2mm tall. Wings white, c. 3mm long from base of calyx, much shorter than the 6mm keel which is white, tipped with purple-brown.

Pod almost circular, c. 3mm long, 2mm wide, strongly flattened, minutely hairy and minutely glandular, light brown when ripe, containing a single seed. Seed circular, c. 1.5mm diameter, flattened, mottled reddish purple on light brown, shiny.

Distribution: Mo., W.B. A native of Japan, naturalized in moister situations in south-east Queensland, also N.S.W.

Notes: A palatable species but not very productive. Reputedly the first subtropical pasture legume introduced into Queensland. Nodulates; self-pollinating. The cultivar Kaloe was released in N.S.W. in 1971.

References: 3, 23, 92, 287; as *Lespedeza striata*, 22, 26, 112, 121, 136.

Labichea

Woody shrubs with digitate leaves with short petioles, or pinnate, with a terminal leaflet, lacking stipules. Petals 4 or 5, yellow, overlapping. Stamens 2. Pods 2-4 seeded, the seeds slightly flattened, with a conspicuous aril. A genus endemic to Australia. Self-pollinating (Kalin Arroyo 1981).

Key to species

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| 1. Leaves pinnate, with 3-17 leaflets | 2 |
| Leaves digitate, with 3-7 leaflets | 3 |
| 2. Leaf rachis 5-15mm long | <i>L. brassii</i> |
| Leaf rachis usually 15-90mm long | <i>L. buettneriana</i> |
| 3. Anthers very unequal, one much longer than the other | <i>L. nitida</i> |
| Anthers about the same size | 4 |
| 4. Central leaflet c. twice length of other leaflets or longer | <i>L. rupestris</i> |
| Central leaflet little longer than other leaflets | <i>L. digitata</i> |

Labichea brassii

Shrub to c. 3m tall, the young stems densely covered with short spreading hairs. Stipules up to 3.5mm long, very deciduous. Leaves pinnate, with 3-9 leaflets, the pairs opposite. Petiole 1-3mm long, rachis 5-15mm long. Terminal leaflet 18-46mm long (including the sharp 1.5-3mm terminal spine), 5-17mm wide, the laterals about half the length of the terminal leaflet or less, the

margins rolled downwards and curving to the base and to the tip which is provided with a sharp 2-3mm spine, green and covered with minute bulbous-based spreading hairs on the upper surface, the lower surface grey-green, densely covered with woolly hairs.

Inflorescence an axillary 20-40mm raceme, usually of 6-10 flowers. Flowers borne singly within the axils of c. 3mm deciduous bracts, each on a 4-10mm pedicel. Sepals 5, 6-10mm long,