

## Myrtle-leaf milkwort



*Polygala myrtifolia*, the myrtle-leaf milkwort, is an evergreen 2-4m tall South African shrub or small tree found along the southern and south-eastern coasts, from near Clanwilliam in the Western Cape to KwaZulu-Natal. It is a fast-growing pioneer plant, a typical fynbos component, and may be found on dunes, rocky places, along forest margins, beside streams, and in open grassland. It belongs to the milkwort family of Polygalaceae.

The shrub blooms from March to October: some flowers remain during the winter. The small flowers, in the shape of butterflies, are purple pink with white spots, gathered in bunches.

It is suitable for all soils, even calcareous, and prefers a sunny exposure. In summer it requires abundant watering. Withstands up to - 4 ° / - 5 ° C. ( 24,8°F)

*Polygala Myrtifolia* is ideal for planting in groups, for small hedges or planters.

Originally from South Africa, it is cultivated as an ornamental plant and has become widely naturalized in temperate climate zones such as Oceania and southern Europe.

**Category:** Flowering shrubs

**Families:** Polygalaceae

**Genus:** *Polygala*

**Species:** *myrtifolia*

**Geographical Area of Origin:** South Africa

**Climatic Zones:** Mediterranean: South and islands, hills. USDA 10 a

**Habit:** Shrub

**Leaves:** Evergreen

**Colore Foglie:** Verde 

**Flowering Period:** Marzo / Aprile / Maggio / Giugno / Luglio / Agosto / Settembre / Ottobre

**Flower:** Simple flower

**Colore Fiori:** Viola 

**Favorite soil:** Sub-acid / medium acid / Light sandy / Middle-Dough / Medium soil



[www.milazzo flora.it](http://www.milazzo flora.it)

**Water needs:** Medium

**Light Exposure:** Medium shade / Half shade / Full light / Full sun

**Form:** Tree / Grown as shrub / bush

**Colore Frutti:** Marrone 