Apium prostratum var prostratum
Sea celery

Inflorescence
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**Sea celery**

### Plant features

**Growth form**  
Biennial or perennial herb. Usually prostrate and multi branched, 0.15–1m long.

**Leaves/stem**  
Stems less than 5mm across and dark green. Mature leaves dark green. Variable in shape. Divided into 3-5 segments. Usually deeply lobed, with all the lobes together giving the shape of an egg or diamond. Leaves 10-40mm long.

**Flowers**  
Flowers usually appears as open clusters, held on 3–9 long stalks radiating out from a central point. Usually 10–18 flowers per stalk. Petals 1mm across. The flowers are white to pale pink and appear mainly from Aug-Mar.

**Fruits**  
The fruit is circular to egg shaped and about 2mm across. The fruit splits into segments containing 1 seed at maturity resulting in a corky ‘rib’ structure.

### Distribution

Found mainly on the coastal plain from Geraldton to Esperance with some populations on the western edge of the Avon catchment.

### Zone, habitat

Found in floodways of winter wet depressions, creek edges, swamps and rocky shores on a range of soil types.

### Additional information

An uncommon understorey species in the Avon but can provide biodiversity to waterways. Mildly salt and very waterlogging tolerant. Its shallow roots and stems, which bend over the soil, also help stabilise erosion prone soil. Propagation unknown.