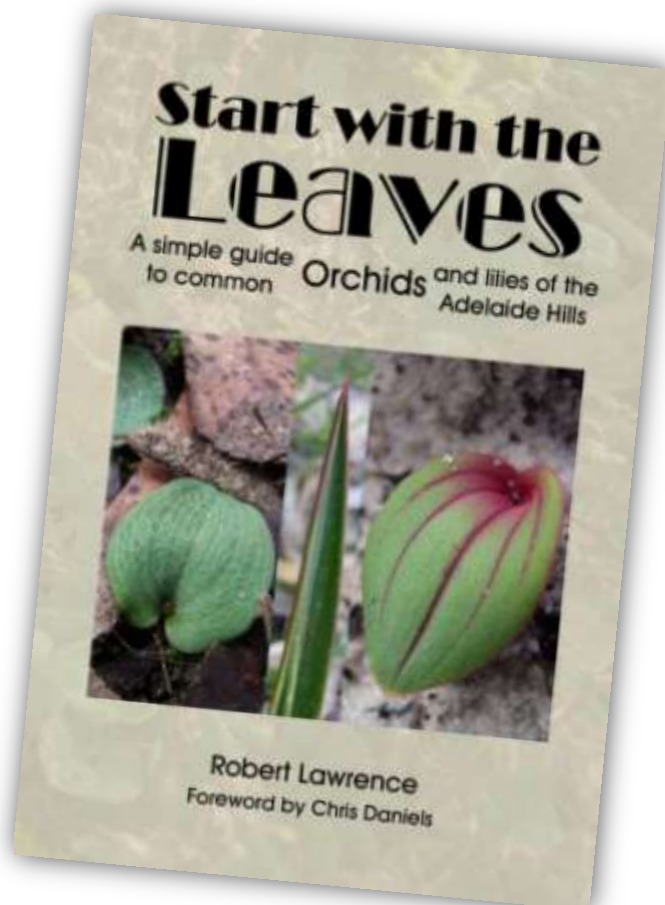


# Start with the Leaves

Robert Lawrence

**RRP \$34.95**

P&H \$5.50



**Start with the Leaves** by Robert Lawrence is a book written to allow easy identification of orchids. It can be used by schools, bushwalkers, bush-carers as well as professionals completing biological surveys. Through it, a complete novice can come to understand the world of orchids.

The book features:

- 50 orchids seen in the Adelaide Hills, most of them common
- Lilies, bulbs and some weeds which can be confused with orchids
- Eight easy to use categories of leaves indicated by a distinctive icon
- Coloured pages for each leaf category
- Photographs in natural settings showing the variations within each species
- A life-size representation of each flower

## Available

Direct from the author [heritagebushcare@gmail.com](mailto:heritagebushcare@gmail.com)  
Native Orchid Society of South Australia [nossa.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.enquiries@gmail.com)  
Book stores

## Payments

Cash, cheque or EFTs (banking details on request)

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## Leaf Guide

1. A flower stalk with no leaf



2. Round or heart-shaped leaf generally flat on the ground



3. Wide flat leaf growing at an angle from the ground



4. Rosette of leaves radiating from one point at the ground



5. Leafy stem with flowers or a rosette without flowers



6. This tubular leaf is like a chive or onion



7. Single upright grass-like leaf



8. Two or more upright grass-like leaves

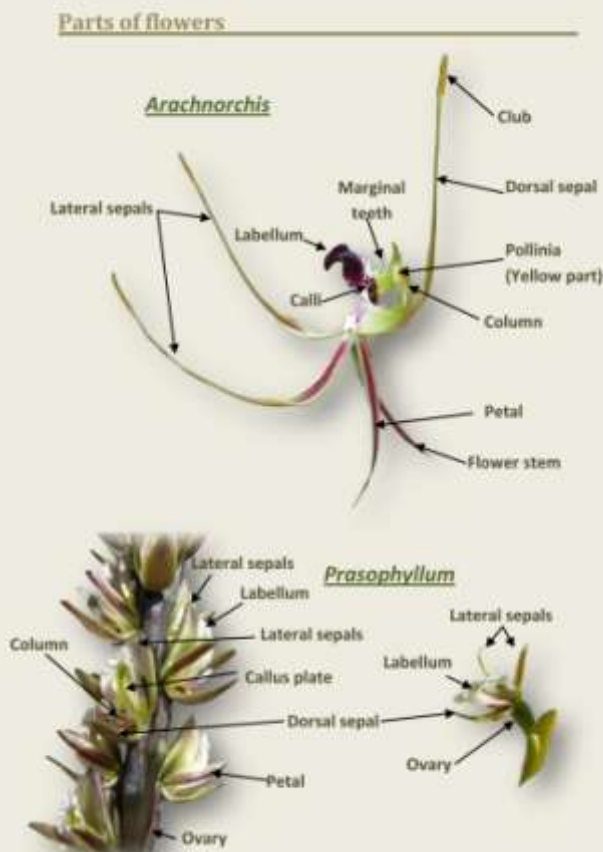


## Guide to the book layout

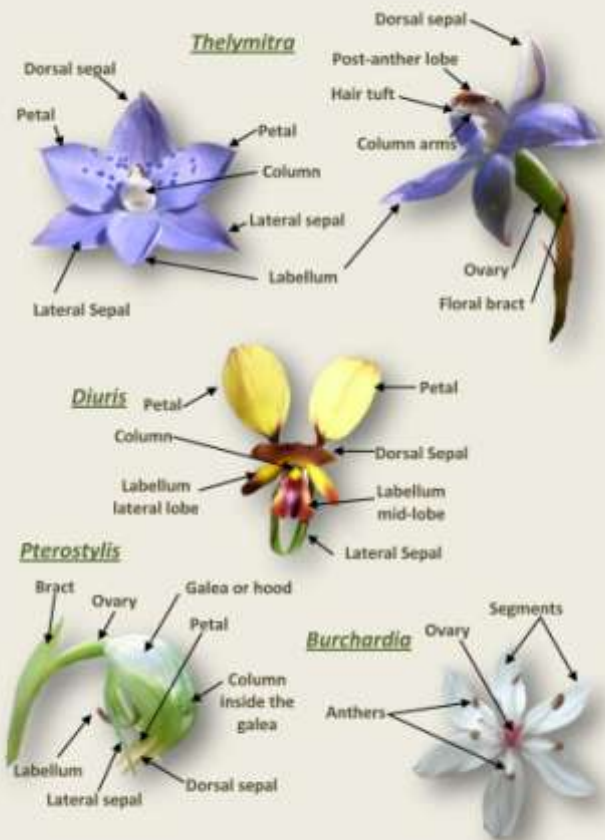
Scientific Name	Common Name	Life size image
<p><i>Thelymitra benthamiana</i> Leopard-lace Orchid</p> <p><i>Thelymitra benthamiana</i> (Leopard-lace Orchid) is widespread in coastal districts.</p> <p><b>Distinctive Features:</b> This species has a unique (and to 40 mm wide) upright leaf that is easy to recognize without flowers or even buds. Non-flowering plants have narrower leaves than the flowering plant leaves. The flowers are also unmistakable being yellowish with brown spots and blotches and having an unusual fringed marle on the column.</p> <p><b>Flowering Time:</b> Late September to November</p>		
General information on the plant		
Brief description of the plant's features		
When the plant is in flower		
Photographs of the leaves	<p>The upright flower is ornate.</p>	

Different coloured band for each leaf type (Grey indicates the plant is not a native orchid and orange indicates it is a weed)	Unique icon For list of icons see page 5
<p><i>Thelymitra benthamiana</i> Leopard-lace Orchid</p>	
Flower photograph	Distinctive background colour for each leaf category

Parts of flowers



24



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Leaf type 3:

Wide flat leaf growing at an angle to the ground



Leaves of several species of native orchids grow almost flat, like the blade of a knife, and are about five to ten times as long as wide. They are variously hairy. They include the *Arachnorchis* species (Spider Orchids). There are many other species in and around the Adelaide Hills than those illustrated below. At the end of the book (pages 181-182) there is a checklist listing features that should be observed to identify other species.

*Arachnorchis leptochila* (Narrow-lip Spider Orchid)

Leaves are narrow and stiffly hairy with a mix of both short and very long silky hairs.



*Arachnorchis reticulata* (Veined Spider Orchid)

This species also has narrow leaves with stiff hairs, but the hairs are shorter than other species.

*Arachnorchis tentaculata* (King Spider Orchid)

This very common orchid has distinctive large grey-green leaves that are densely covered with short silky hairs. Leaves are tapered towards the apex (tip).



*Caladenia latifolia* (Pink Fairies)

Leaves are large with parallel edges and thin white lines along their length. They are covered with short hairs. This species is particularly common in coastal areas.

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Leaf type 3:

Wide flat leaf growing at an angle to the ground



*Glossodia major* (Purple Cockatoo)

Pale green leaves are sparsely covered with short hairs and can often be recognised before flowering by their sheer numbers, this being one of the most common orchid species seen in the area. Flowers have a variety of shades from purple to white.

*Leptoceras menziesii* (Hare Orchid)

Leaves are rigid, lack hairs and have a fine texture on the upper surface. In many areas plants require a summer fire to make them flower. They tend to prefer moist sites.



*Thelymitra benthamiana* (Leopard Sun Orchid)

The broad upright, pale green, hairless leaf of this plant is distinctive as are the large spotted flowers. This species also tends to occur in coastal areas.

*Ophioglossum lusitanicum* (Austral Adder's-tongue)

The leaves are orchid-like and occur in colonies; they are flat, hairless and tapered at both ends. The stalk also could be mistaken for the bud of an orchid. However, this plant is unrelated to orchids and does not have true flowers.



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## *Thelymitra antennifera*

Lemon Sun Orchid

*Thelymitra antennifera* (Lemon Sun Orchid) has relatively large flowers for a Sun Orchid of this size.

### Distinctive Features:

*Thelymitra antennifera* (Lemon Sun Orchid) can be distinguished by the bright green leaf alone. This is filiform (thread-like), terete (cylindrical), red striped at the base and up to 100 mm long. Though erect, the leaf leans at a slight angle. Flowers are lemon-scented.

### Flowering Time:

Late August to early November



Two young tubular leaves with characteristic reddish bases

114

## *Thelymitra antennifera*

Lemon Sun Orchid



Typical pale lemon flowers with sepals that are reddish on the outside and two dark, ear-like appendages on the column

115

## *Bulbine bulbosa*

Bulbine-lily

*Bulbine bulbosa* (Bulbine-lily) is a common lily growing 200-500 mm high.

### Distinctive Features:

Leaves are succulent, radical, broad-linear and channelled, to 300 mm long. Stems (or scapes) are simple and erect. Flowers are yellow. The female parts of the flower tend to be upright at an angle to the stem and superficially resemble the column of an orchid.

### Flowering Time:

August to October



Several plants with basal leaves emerging after fire

160

## *Bulbine bulbosa*

Bulbine-lily



Close view of a flower and buds



Native bee pollinator on a flower

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