

Botanical Name: Carpobrotus chilensis

Common Name: Sea fig

Type of Plant: dicot; groundcover Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a succulent, prostrate, wide-spreading plant, with the stems tend-
ing to root at the nodes; the distinctive fleshy leaves point upward from the stem

Height 6-12" Spread indefinite Growth Rate mod-rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoor thrives in full sun, tolerates partial at warm sites

Soil prefers sandy locales, can grow in most soils

Hardiness some frost (zones 12-24); best suited for warm coast

Morphology:

Leaves fleshy, modified pinnate: conspicuously 3-sided, banana-
shaped, full green; opposite, 2-3" long

Flowers rosy purple, showy, 2-3" wide, with many narrow petals;
solitary; March-July

Fruit a capsule, 1" wide

Propagation: softwood cuttings

Usage: an excellent large-scale ground cover, valued for its
durability (drought-tolerance) and distinctive foliage; best for warm dry open
areas, gentle slopes

Landscape Care:

Watering an occasional deep soak; becomes drought tolerant after
established

Fertilizing none required

Pruning head back to keep in bounds

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions becomes invasive if overwatered

Origin: South Africa Family: Aizoaceae