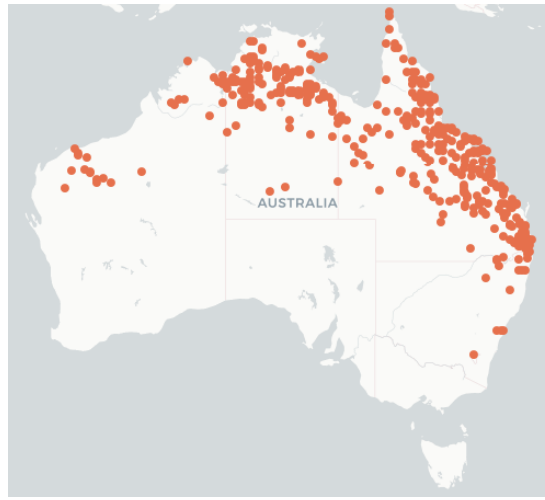


**Convolvulaceae**  
***Ipomoea plebeia***  
 bellvine



**Ann Moran**  
**Field Botanist**



Green Tortoise Beetle *Cassida compuncta*

**ETYMOLOGY**

(I-po-ME-a) Greek ips = a kind of worm + homoios = similar to: The species plebeia (pleh-BEE-ah) from latin low common, lowly status; referring to its widespread ditrbution in eastern mainland states;

**LIFEFORM**

long 3m Creeper

**STATUS**

Common in all regions except in Darling Downs district SE Qld;

**OCCURS**

(Lagoon track Yourka, Skardon River Weipa Q, Grafton, Yetman NSW, Ashburton, Derby, Halls Creek, Roebourne, Wyndham WA, NT, NG)

**HABITAT**

Coastal tropics, semi-arid, Disturbed, roadside

**LEAVES**

Alternate, 3-8 x 1-5 cm, ovate to ovate-oblong, cordate v-shaped broad, sparsely hairy; apex acute to obtuse, base deeply cordate, margins entire, sparsely pilose; on 1-6 cm

**FLOWERS**

Funnel-shaped, 9-13 mm, white, 1-2 flowered, one style with hairy mid-petaline bands.

**Flowering times:** Dec, Jan, Feb, March, April, May

**FRUIT**

Capsules, 7-9 mm, broadly ovoid to globular; depressed-globose, 2-locular, splitting into 4 valves; hairy seeds with slightly longer hairs on the ridges. **Fruiting times:** Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, March, April, May, June, July

**ROOT**

Woody rootstock

**STEM**

Annual scrambler with twining branches, moderately pilose; New growth is hairy;

**ETHNOBOTANY**

Mainly a weed of cultivation; Suspected toxic to stock; Toxicity moderate risk in goats (Simmonds, Holst, & Bourke 2000)

**NATIVE BEES**

*Amegilla pulchra* blue banded bee

**INSECTS**

*Agrius convolvuli* ipomoea moth, *Cassida compuncta* green tortoise beetle

**BIRD**

**BUTTERFLY**

**INDIGENOUS USES**

Tuberous roots eaten by indigenous people; (Latz, 1995);

**ID FEATURE**

Leaves cordate (heart shaped) evenly pilose (hairy) on both sides; First two leaves have two horns. In North Qld - *Ipomoea hederifolia* is more common