

Vittadinia muelleri



Vittadinia muelleri. H&A Wapstra.

FAMILY: ASTERACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Vittadinia muelleri*,
N.Burb., *Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.* 93: 440 fig.1D
(1969)

COMMON NAME: Narrow leaf New Holland
daisy

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

A tufted perennial herb between 12-15 cm tall. **Leaves:** The leaves are three lobed and almost hairless. **Flowers:** The flowers are small and mauve in colour with a yellow centre. Flowering is predominantly from November to May (Flora of Victoria). **Fruit:** The fruit is small, dry and leathery with a sparse covering of hairs and thickened margins. The pappus (ring of scales or hairs found on top of fruit) consists of barbed bristles. Herbarium specimens have been collected from September to March. **Confusing species:** This species is distinguished from *Vittadinia gracilis* and *Vittadinia cuneata* by its deeper mauve flowers and almost hairless leaves (description from Kirkpatrick *et al.* 1988).

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. In Tasmania, *Vittadinia muelleri* is known from the driest and most fertile soils in the Hobart area and extending up into the Midlands (Kirkpatrick *et al.* 1988).

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include Waterworks Road quarry, Gordons Hill (Hobart), Township Lagoon (Tunbridge), Avoca, Mona Vale, New Norfolk, Queens Domain (Hobart), Mt Nelson, Midlands Highway near Perth, Bridgewater, Crow Hill, Tea Tree, Hamilton Plains, Richmond, Ross, Hobart Airport, Bagdad Primary School and Broadmarsh Road.

Known Reserves

Reserved in the Rosny Hill Nature Recreation Area and the Township Lagoon Nature Reserve.

Ecology and Management

This species is threatened by grazing, however construction of quarries and tracks (which create bare ground) are beneficial due to a reduction in competition (TPLUC 1996).

Insects are the most likely pollination vector for this species (A. Hingston pers. comm.).

Conservation Status Assessment

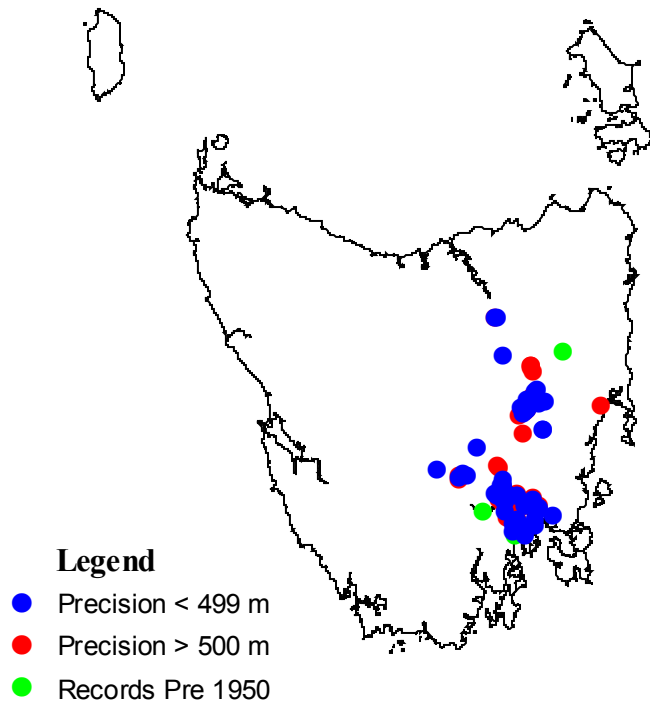
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Vittadinia muelleri*.

Further Information

- Kirkpatrick, JB, Gilfedder L & Fensham RJ 1988, *City Parks and Cemeteries: Tasmania's Remnant Grasslands and Grassy Woodlands*, Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Hobart.
- Tasmanian Public Land Use Commission 1996, *Environment & Heritage Report Vol IV, Background Report*, Part C, Tasmanian Commonwealth Regional Forest Agreement, Hobart.
- Tremont, RM 1995, The phenologies of six native forbs (*Aphanes australiana*, *Isoetopsis graminifolia*, *Triptilodiscus pygmaeus*, *Hypericum gramineum*, *Solenogyne dominii* and *Vittadinia muelleri*) occurring in grazed grassy communities on the Northern Tablelands of New South Wales', *Cunninghamia* Vol.4(1).

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Bothwell, Broadmarsh, Carlton, Conara, Delmont, Elderslie, Ellinthorp, Faddens, Hamilton, Hanleth, Hobart, Kempton, Longford, Morriston, New Norfolk, Oatlands, Ouse, Richmond, Ross, Sorell, Swansea, Taroona, Tea Tree, Tunbridge.

Date last modified: 22/08/03