

# *Brachyscome* aff. *radicans*



**FAMILY:** ASTERACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Brachyscome* aff. *radicans*, (A. Moscal HO121890)

**COMMON NAME:** Snow daisy

**COMMONWEALTH STATUS:** (*EPBC Act*) Not Listed

**TASMANIAN STATUS:** (*TSP Act*) rare

*Brachyscome* aff. *radicans*.  
Plant Science Department (Uni of Tas).

## Description

A perennial herb with a short, thick rootstock. **Leaves:** The leaves are linear to spoon-shaped and arise mainly from the base of the plant. They are hairless (sometimes with a few minute, oily hairs near the base) and between 2-9 cm long with entire margins. **Flowers:** The flower stalks are approximately three times as long as the leaves with a few leaves near the base. The flowers are bluish/white and arranged into heads that are each 1.2-1.8 cm in diameter. **Fruit:** The fruit is small, dry, leathery, flattened and oval in outline. It has a line of short oily hairs that forms a straight line along the flattened surface. The pappus (ring of scales or hairs found on top of fruit) is conspicuous (description from Curtis 1963, Kirkpatrick 1997). Herbarium specimens have been collected in February and March. **This species was previously known as *Brachyscome nivalis* (sensu W.M. Curtis 1963) or *Brachyscome nivalis* var. *alpina*.**

## Distribution and Habitat

While *Brachyscome nivalis* (previously *Brachyscome nivalis* var. *alpina*) occurs in New South Wales and Victoria, Tasmanian records formerly attributed to this species have been determined to be a distinct Tasmanian form and until the taxonomic review has been completed, the taxon will be referred to as *Brachyscome* aff. *radicans*. In Tasmania, *Brachyscome* aff. *radicans* is said to be found in grassy, wet places and along stream banks in the eastern mountains and on the Central Plateau though records from the eastern mountains have not been confirmed (Kirkpatrick 1997, Tasmanian Herbarium data 2002).

## Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include Devils Den and Little Split Rock.

## Known Reserves

*Brachyscome* aff. *radicans* is reserved in the Central Plateau Conservation Area.

## Ecology and Management

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

## Conservation Status Assessment

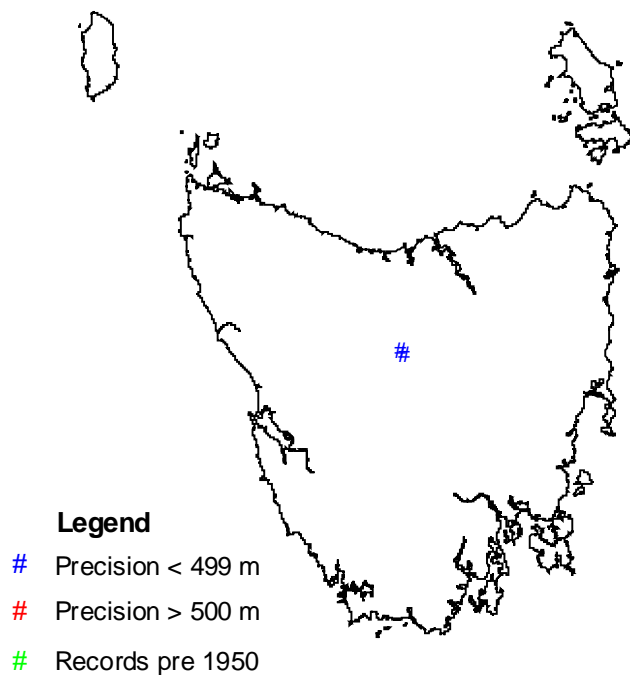
While it would appear that *Brachyscome* aff. *radicans* qualifies for a higher threat category, more information may be required for a meaningful reassessment. This species has unresolved taxonomic issues and it may be described as a species endemic to Tasmania. The distribution of this species also requires clarification.

## Further Information

- Curtis, WM 1963, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 2, Government Printer, Hobart.
- Kirkpatrick, JB 1997, *Alpine Tasmania*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne.
- Salkin, E, Tomlinson, G, Armstrong, B, Courtney, B & Schaumann, M 1995, *Australian Brachyscomes*, Australian Daisy Study Group.

## Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



## 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Pillans, Split Rock.

Date last modified: 02/09/03