

Brachyscome rigidula



Brachyscome rigidula. H & A Wapstra.

FAMILY: ASTERACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Brachyscome rigidula*, (DC.) G.Davis, *Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.* 73: 219 (1948)

COMMON NAME: Hairy cutleaf daisy

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*)
vulnerable

Description

A perennial daisy with many wiry branches and a slender, woody rootstock. This plant grows to between 10-40 cm tall. **Leaves:** The leaves are between 0.8-3.0 cm long and taper into a narrow point. They are either hairless or have a few stiff or bristle like hairs. The leaves are borne on the aerial parts of the stem and are arranged like barbs of a feather. **Flowers:** The flower heads have purple petals with a yellow centre and are borne singly on glandular, hairy stalks. Flowering occurs from August to May. **Fruit:** The fruit is small and dry, with a thin, leathery wall. It does not open to release seed (Curtis 1963).

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. In Tasmania, *Brachyscome rigidula* is found in dry rocky hills and flats, pastures, grassland and grassy woodland in the Midlands, East Coast and in parts of the eastern Central Highlands of Tasmania (TPLUC 1996).

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include the Railway Reserve and the Township Lagoon Nature Reserve at Tunbridge, Fingal, South Esk River at Avoca, Millers Bluff, Huntingdon Tier, Cranbrook, Waddamana Road west of Synnots Sugarloaf and the Lyell Highway, 4km west of Granton.

Known Reserves

A population is securely reserved in the Township Lagoon Nature Reserve and two populations occur at the Risdon Brook Water Reserve (TPLUC 1996). Other known reserves include the Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park.



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Ecology and Management

This species can only tolerate light grazing. It requires disturbance and bare ground for regeneration (TPLUC 1996).

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

Conservation Status Assessment

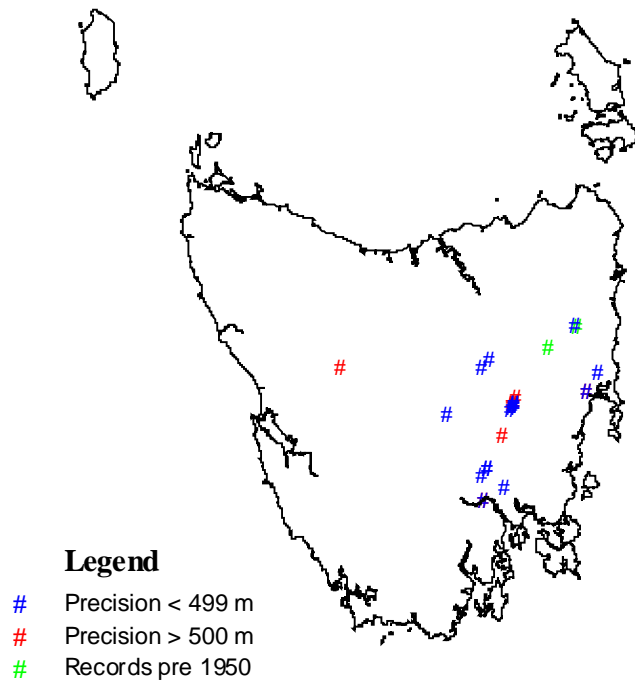
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Brachyscome rigidula*.

Further Information

- Curtis, WM 1963, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 2, Government Printer, Hobart.
- Harden, GJ ed 1992, *Flora of New South Wales*, Volume 3, Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, Sydney.
- Tasmanian Public Land Use Commission 1996, *Environment & Heritage Report Vol IV, Background Report*, Part C, Tasmanian Commonwealth Regional Forest Agreement, Hobart.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, August 2002)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Achilles, Apslawn, Cranbrook, Elderslie, Ellinthorp, Fingal, Hanleth, Hermitage, Mangana, New Norfolk, O'Connors, Oatlands, Tea Tree, Tunbridge.

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