

Brachyscome sieberi var. *gunnii*



Brachyscome sieberi var. *gunnii*.
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

FAMILY: ASTERACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Brachyscome sieberi*
var. *gunnii*, DC., *Prodr.* 5: 306 (1836)

COMMON NAME: Sieber's daisy

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*) Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

A glandular, hairy, branching perennial with stems almost erect or upright and slightly bent (up to 25 cm tall). **Leaves:** The leaves are stalkless (sessile) and between 1-7 cm long and 2-10 mm wide. The top half of the leaves is usually broader with 3-5 teeth near the tip. The upper surface is almost hairless with the lower surface densely covered with glandular (oily) hairs. **Flowers:** The flower heads are approximately 2.5-3.5 cm across and held singly at the tips of leafy flowering stems that are between 20-25 cm long. There are up to 10 leaves along a flowering stem, the uppermost being lance-shaped with whole margins. The ray florets (outer florets in daisy head) are numerous (>50) and are white with light purple. The bracts (scale-like leaves associated with the flower) have tips with broad clear margins and many short glandular hairs on the outer surfaces. **Fruits:** The pale-brown fruit is somewhat flattened, between 2.8-3.2 mm long and 2-2.5 mm wide with hairs down the centre of the body. The wing is broad and paper-like, with an irregular margin and small hairs along the edge. The pappus (ring of scales or hairs found on top of fruit) is longer than the notch between the wings and the bristles vary in length (description from Salkin *et al.* 1995). Herbarium specimens have been collected through most of the year.

Distribution and Habitat

This species is endemic to Tasmania and is predominantly distributed on the eastern side of the State in wet sclerophyll forest (Salkin *et al.* 1995). It has also been recorded from rainforest in the Southwest National Park (J. Balmer pers. com. 2001). No other subspecies of *Brachyscome sieberi* are found in Tasmania.

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include Dans Hill, west of Beaconsfield, Epping Forest, White Lagoon near Tunbridge, Midway Point, The Sugarloaf, Black Jacks Hill, Snowy River, East Bagdad Road, Bagdad and Knopwood Hill.

Known Reserves

Known from the Dans Hill Forest Reserve, Devils Den Conservation Area, Freycinet National Park, Hardings Falls Forest Reserve, Snowy River Forest Reserve, Southwest National Park and the Wye River State Reserve.

Ecology and Management

Brachyscome sieberi var. *gunnii* requires gaps for recruitment. Fire and grazing provide open areas, and are considered to be beneficial impacts. However, forest clearing is reported as an adverse impact (TPLUC 1996).

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

Conservation Status Assessment

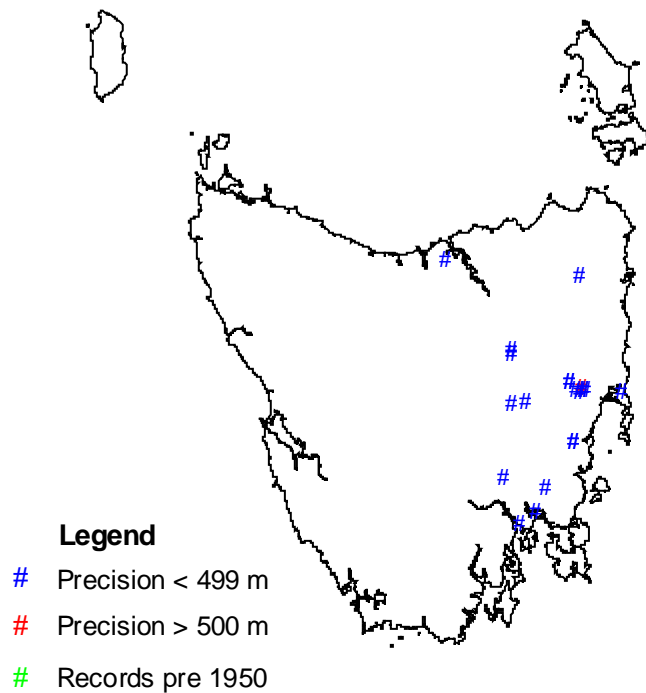
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Brachyscome sieberi* var. *gunnii*.

Further Information

- Salkin, E, Tomlinson, G, Armstrong, B, Courtney, B & Schaumann, M 1995, *Australian Brachyscomes*, Australian Daisy Study Group.
- 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, June 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Bains, Beaconsfield, Cleveland, Friendly, Hobart, Leake, Royalty, Runnymede, Snow, Sorell, Tunbridge, Victoria.

Date last modified: 02/09/03

Note: South-west records not included in distribution map