

Westringia brevifolia var. *raleighii*



Westringia brevifolia var. *raleighii*.
Threatened Species Unit.

FAMILY: LAMIACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Westringia brevifolia*
var. *raleighii*, (B.Boivin) W.M.Curtis, *Stud. Fl.*
Tasm. 3: 650 (1967)

COMMON NAME: Native rosemary

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

This shrub has many branches and grows up to 1 metre tall. The branchlets, lower leaf surface and the calyces (outermost whorl of floral parts) are covered with dense silvery-white hairs. **Leaves:** The leaves have short stalks and are in whorls of 4. They are lance-shaped and between 4-16 mm long and 1.2-3.5 mm wide. The leaf margins are bent backwards but do not cover much of the silver-haired lining underneath. **Flowers:** The flowers are single with very short stalks and are found in the axils (where the stem meets the leaf) near the ends of the branches. The calyx is approximately 6 mm long with narrow lobes that taper into a fine point. The flower tube is cream and sparsely covered with hairs. The calyx is half the length of the floral tube. **Fruit:** The fruit is a nutlet with a deeply wrinkled network of veins running across the surface. Herbarium specimens have been collected from September to December. **Confusing species:** *Westringia brevifolia* var. *raleighii* is somewhat larger in all its parts than *Westringia brevifolia* var. *brevifolia* (description from Curtis 1967).

Distribution and Habitat

Westringia brevifolia var. *raleighii* is endemic to Tasmania and occurs in rocky situations, low open forest and woodland in coastal situations (Curtis 1967).

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include Mt. Strzelecki on Flinders Island and Little Lagoon Beach at Southport.

Known Reserves

Reserved in the Southport Lagoon Conservation Area, Southwest National Park and Strzelecki National Park.

Ecology and Management

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

Conservation Status Assessment

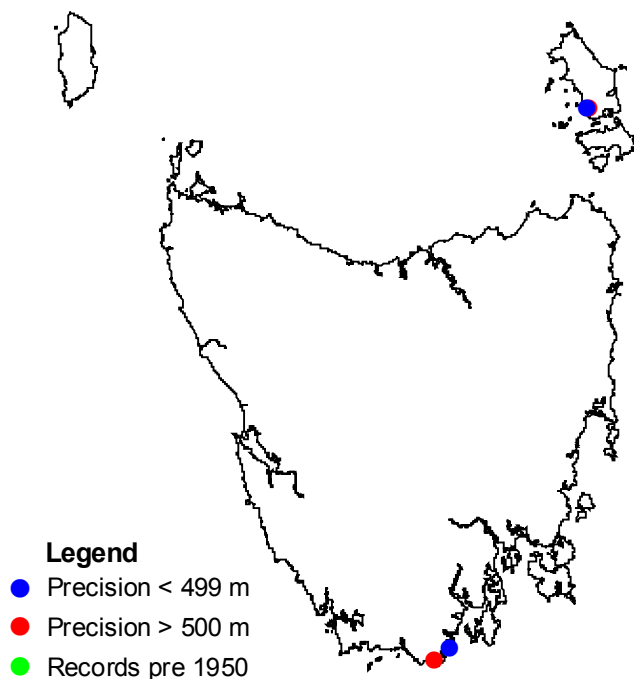
Westringia brevifolia var. *raleighii* may warrant uplisting due to the paucity of records though more information is required for a meaningful assessment.

Further Information

- Curtis, WM 1967, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 3, Government Printer, Hobart.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit, May 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Loccota, Recherche.

Date last modified: 02/09/03