

Pandorea pandorana



Pandorea pandorana flowers.
Photographs: E. Lazarus

FAMILY: BIGNONIACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Pandorea pandorana*,
(Andrews) Steenis. *Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenz.*
10: 198 (1928)

COMMON NAME: Wonga vine

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

A hairless, climbing shrub between 2-6 m tall with twining branchlets. **Leaves:** The leaves are opposite and arranged like the barbs of a feather (pinnate). They are very variable in size and shape between 5-20 cm long. The margins can be entire or coarsely toothed with glossy upper surfaces and pale, dull undersurfaces. **Flowers:** The flowers are funnel shaped and cream with red-brown markings, often with crimson or purple spots at the base of the 3 larger lobes. The calyx (outermost whorl of floral parts) is 2-3 mm long. Flowering is from August to November (Flora of Victoria). **Fruit:** The fruit are capsules between 4-7 cm long, the valves are leathery and boat-shaped. The seeds are flat and surrounded by a broad transparent wing (description from Curtis 1967).

Distribution and Habitat

This species is found in all the Australian states except for Western Australia. It is also known from New Guinea and the islands of Ceram and Lombok. In Tasmania, *Pandorea pandorana* is restricted to Flinders Island, where it is found in damp gullies and wet sclerophyll forest. (Curtis 1967).

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include the Brougham Sugarloaf Conservation Area and Summer Camp Gully on Flinders Island. The number of mature individuals in one population can be as few as 20.

Known Reserves

This species is reserved in the Brougham Sugarloaf Conservation Area.



Ecology and Management

Pandorea pandorana is a common garden plant that is sold commercially. In this form, it is a creeper that is often seen climbing over fences. The native plant is also extremely vigorous, however it is much longer in the stem and is often found scrambling through large trees. In older specimens, the stem is very thick and appears to be strangling the tree it is growing on. The response of this species to fire is unknown. However, *Pandorea pandorana* is strongly associated with gully habitat and does not appear to have the same regeneration capacity as the adjacent vegetation. Dispersal of seed is presumably by wind (S. Harris pers. comm.).

Conservation Status Assessment

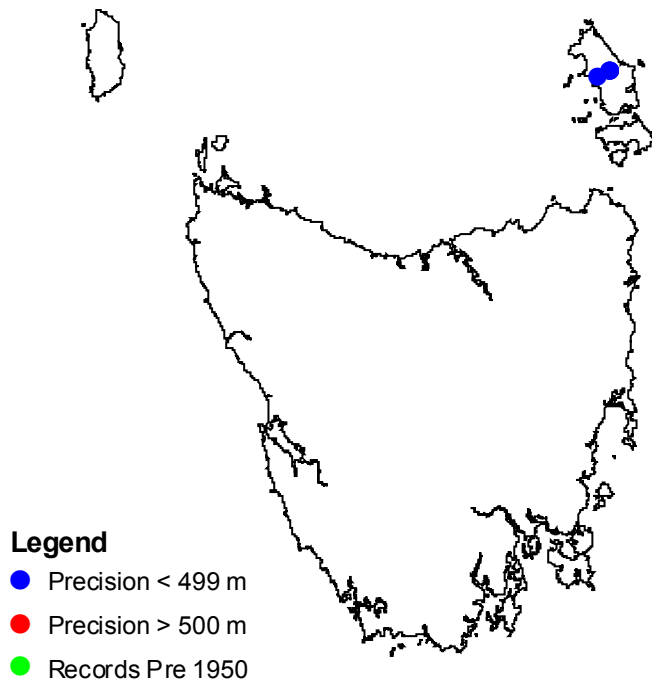
Reassessment of *Pandorea pandorana* may be required due to the low number of populations that are restricted to small areas on Flinders Island.

Further Information

- Cochrane, GR, Fuhrer, BA, Rotherman, J, Rotherman M & Willis, JH 1980, *Flowers and Plants of Victoria and Tasmania*, Reed, Sydney.
- Cunningham, GM, Mulham, W, Milthorpe, P & Leigh, J 1992, *Plants of Western New South Wales*, Inkata Press, Sydney.
- Curtis, WM 1967, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 3, Government Printer, Hobart.
- Strickland, K & P 1994, *Peninsular Plants*, Volume Two, Kareelah Bush Nursery, Melbourne.
- Underwood, S 1998, *Synecology & Conservation of Vegetation on Aeolian Calcarenite, Flinders Island, Bass Strait*, BAppSc thesis, University of Tasmania.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, May 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Leventhorpe, Memana.

Date last modified: 12/05/03