

# *Argyrotegium fordianum*



*Argyrotegium fordianum*.  
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

**FAMILY:** ASTERACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Argyrotegium fordianum*, (M.Gray) J.M.Ward & Breitw., *N.Z. J. Bot.* 41: 609 (2003)

**COMMON NAME:** Soft cudweed

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

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

## Description

An underground stem forming (rhizomatous), tufted perennial forb that is sometimes mat-like. **Leaves:** The leaves arise mostly from the base of the plant and are crowded towards the branch-tips. They are between 1.5-4 cm long and 5-10 mm wide. Both leaf surfaces are silvery-grey with dense cottony hairs. **Flowers:** The flowering stems are erect or sloping upward and between 4-9 cm tall (up to 15 cm in fruit) with 4-10 leaves only slightly smaller than the ones at the base of the plant. The flowerheads are arranged in clusters as the ends of the flowering stems. Each flowerhead contains between 5-15 florets. Flowering is from December to February (Flora of Victoria). **Fruit:** The fruit is small, dry, leathery and hairless, between 1.3-1.5 mm long (description from Walsh & Entwistle 1999). **This species was previously known as *Euchiton fordianus* or *Gnaphalium fordianum*.**

## Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria and New South Wales. The Tasmanian distribution includes Pine Lake in the Central Plateau and on Mt Barrow in the north-east of the State. This species has been recorded from grassy depressions in alpine heathland (C. Flann pers. comm.).

## Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for *Argyrotegium fordianum* include Pine Lake and Mt Barrow.

## Known Reserves

Reserved in the Central Plateau Conservation Area and Mount Barrow State Reserve.

## Ecology and Management

There is currently no information available regarding the ecology and management of this species.

### Conservation Status Assessment

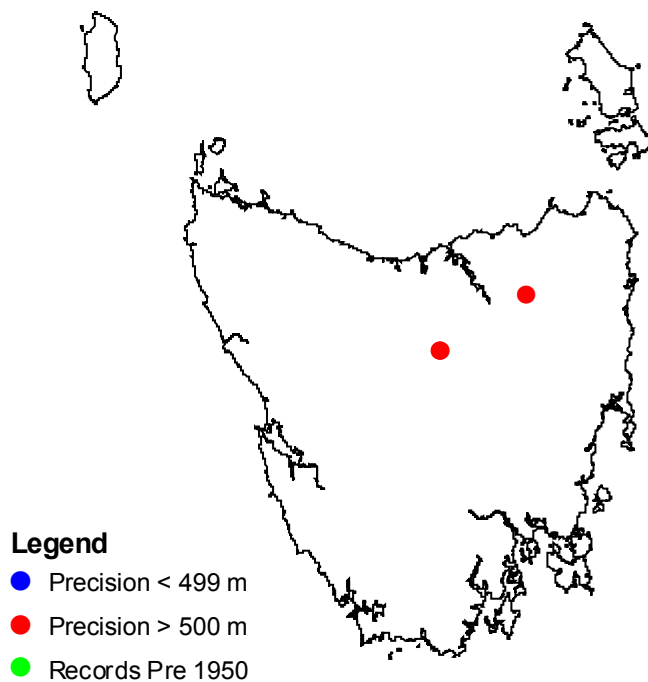
Reassessment of *Argyrotegium fordianum* may be warranted due to the paucity of records though more information is required for a meaningful reassessment.

### Further Information

- Walsh, NG & Entwistle, TJ eds 1999, *Flora of Victoria*, Volume 4, Inkata Press, Melbourne.

### Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, August 2005)



### 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Breona, Nunamara.

Date last modified: 18/07/2005.