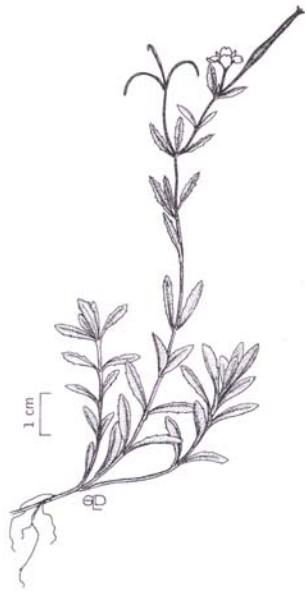


# *Epilobium willisii*



*Epilobium willisii*. G. Davis.

**FAMILY:** ORAGINACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Epilobium willisii*,  
Raven & Engelhorn, *N.Z. J. Bot.* 9: 347 (1971)

**COMMON NAME:** Carpet willowherb

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

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

## Description

A herb with spreading stems. **Stems:** The stems are either hairless or have lines of short hairs. **Leaves:** The leaves are erect, arranged in opposite pairs (between 5-16 mm long and 1.5-4 mm wide) with 2-5 teeth along the margins. **Flowers:** The flowers are pink and occur in groups of two in the axils (where stem meets leaf) of the upper leaves. The flower stalks are between 8-17 mm long. Flowering is predominantly from December to February (Flora of Victoria). **Fruit:** The fruit is a capsule that contains pale-rimmed seeds. The seeds are without a plume of hairs, which is generally characteristic of all *Epilobium* species (description from Kirkpatrick 1997). Observations of this species have been made from November to April.

## Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria. In Tasmania, *Epilobium willisii* is found in wet montane herbfields around the central mountains and bare places around the eastern mountains (Kirkpatrick 1997, J. Balmer pers. comm.).

## Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include Goulds Sugarloaf, Dunning Rivulet, Billop Creek, Millers Bluff, Mt. Blackwood and northwest of Legges Tor.

## Known Reserves

Reserved in the Ben Lomond National Park, Central Plateau Conservation Area, Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park, Drys Bluff Forest Reserve, Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park, Great Lake Conservation Area and the Great Western Tiers Conservation Area.

## Ecology and Management

*Epilobium* species produce prolific amounts of wind-dispersed seed. They are often found in riparian/wet herbfield habitats (L. Gilfedder pers. comm.).

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

## Conservation Status Assessment

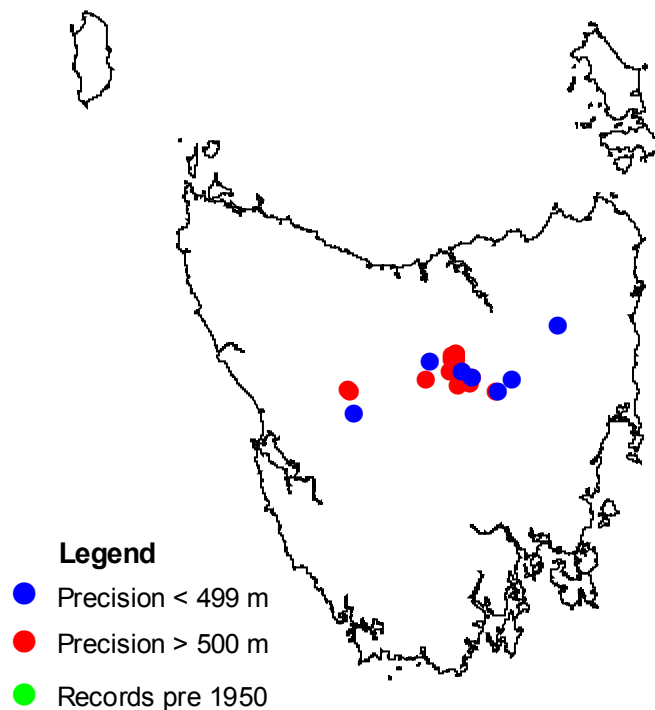
There is not enough information available to enable a meaningful reassessment of *Epilobium willisii*.

## Further Information

➤ Kirkpatrick, JB 1997, *Alpine Tasmania*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

## Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



## 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Bradys Lookout, Breona, Conara, Dome, Giblin, Goulds, Liffey, Millers, Poatina, Split Rock.

Date last modified: 27/08/03