Hovea corrickiae

Hovea corrickiae. W. Potts.

FAMILY: FABACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Hovea corrickiae,* J.H.Ross, *Muelleria* 7: 203 (1990)

COMMON NAME: Glossy hovea

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*) Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

A small shrub or slender tree up to 5 metres tall. **Leaves:** The glossy green leaves are between 3-4 cm long and 0.7-2 cm wide with an underside densely covered in yellow-white to rust coloured hairs. The leaves are arranged alternately on the stem and are almost at right angles to the stem. **Flowers:** The flowers are white and borne on long stalks between 5-9.5 cm long in the leaf axils (where the stem meets the leaf). Flowering is in spring. **Fruit:** The fruit is an inflated pod, which opens by an explosive mechanism to release 2 dark brown, kidney-shaped seeds between 4.5-6mm long and 3-3.5 mm wide (description from Lynch 1993). Herbarium specimens have been collected from May to December.

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in south-west Victoria. In Tasmania, *Hovea corrickiae* is found in rocky sites, along riparian zones with wet sclerophyll understorey shrubs and in open forest. There are only small, scattered populations in the north-east of the State occupying less than 8 hectares in total (Barker 1996, TSU data 2000).

Key Sites and Populations

The largest population is found at German Town with approximately 500 individuals. The second largest and most dense population occurs at St Colombia Falls on the Georges River. Other important locations include Loila, Mt Elephant, Georges River and Avoca. There are 18 known populations in Tasmania with less than 2 500 individuals in total (Barker 1996, TSU data 2000).

Known Reserves

Reserved in the Castle Cary Regional Reserve, St Colombia Falls State Reserve and the Lower Marsh Creek Forest Reserve.

Ecology and Management

Habitat of *Hovea corrickiae* appears to be frequently burnt by cool fires and regeneration appears to be from soil stored seed. Fire is part of the environment, however it is not required for the maintenance of the species (Lynch 1993).

This species appears to be adequately reserved and managed in forest areas (Barker pers. comm).

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

Conservation Status Assessment

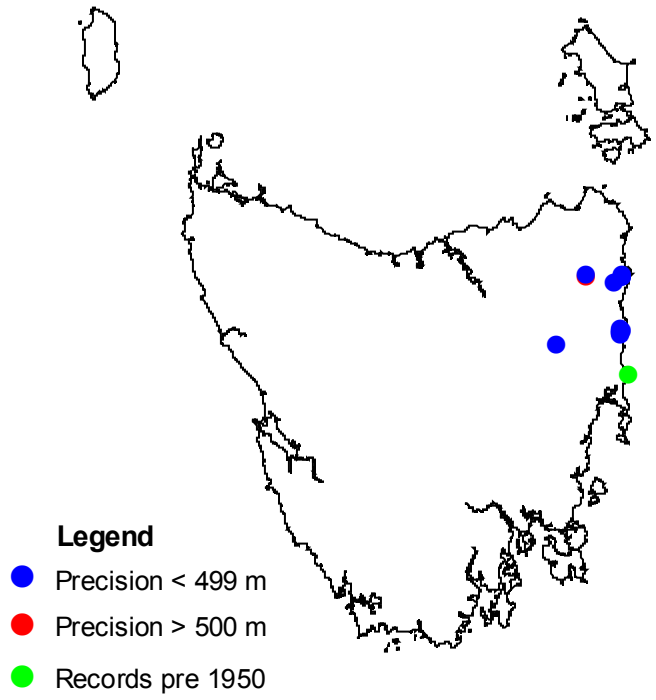
Hovea corrickiae could be considered for uplisting to vulnerable because of its low area of occupancy, though it does not qualify for vulnerable under current guidelines.

Further Information

- Barker, PCJ 1996, *Selecting Viable Populations of Threatened Plants for Conservation Management,* Forestry Tasmania & The Australian Nature Conservation Agency, Hobart.
- Lynch, AJJ 1993, *Conservation Biology and Management of 16 Rare or Threatened FABACEAE Species in Tasmania,* Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service Endangered Species Program Project No. 4, Parks & Wildlife Service, Hobart.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Hanleth, Lodi, Piccaninny, Pyengana, St Helens, Victoria.

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