

Lachnagrostis robusta



Lachnagrostis. robusta.
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

FAMILY: POACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Lachnagrostis robusta*,
(Vickery) S.W.L.Jacobs, *Telopea* 9(3): 447
(2001)

COMMON NAME: Tall blown-grass

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

This species is very similar in appearance to *Lachnagrostis punicea* ssp. *filifolia*, the main differences being for *Lachnagrostis robusta*:

1. The stems are taller - up to 60 cm high
2. A upper surfaces of the leaf blades are smoother
3. The leaf-like structures surrounding the spikelets (glumes) have a very rough ridge that protrudes from the sides (keel)
4. The seeds have short stiff hairs that are rough to the touch and situated above the middle point, where the awn is attached (description from Curtis & Morris 1994).

Herbarium specimens have been collected from December to April. **This species was previously known as *Agrostis billardierei* var. *robusta*.**

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria and South Australia. In Tasmania, *Lachnagrostis robusta* is known from marshy, estuarine habitat and moist sandy flats, predominantly around the north-east and on the East Coast (Curtis & Morris 1994).

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include St Helens, Cape Barren Island, Boomer Creek, Old Mines Lagoon, Pt Lesueur (Maria Island), Harcus River, Cape Portland near Cape Lagoon, Celery Top Islands (Bathurst Harbour), Port Davey, Marion Bay, Browns River near Kingston, Ten Mile Hill at Granton, Ralphs Bay Canal and Calverts Lagoon at South Arm.



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Known Reserves

Reserved in Calverts Lagoon Conservation Area, Cape Portland Private Sanctuary, Maria Island National Park and the Southwest National Park.

Ecology and Management

There are few recent records for the area around Hobart suggesting a decline in the distribution of the species.

Wind is the most likely pollination vector for this species (A. Hingston pers. comm.).

Conservation Status Assessment

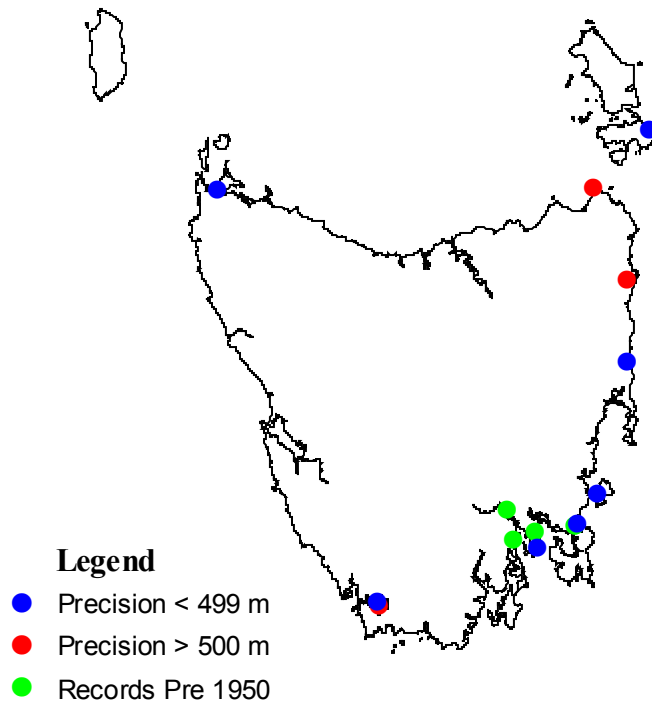
There is not enough information available to enable a meaningful reassessment of *Lachnagrostis robusta*. This species may have been under-recorded due to failure to identify *Agrostis billardiarei* beyond the species level (the old name was *Agrostis billardiarei* var. *robusta*).

Further Information

- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1994, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 4B, Printing Authority of Tasmania, Hobart.
- Walsh, NG & Entwistle, TJ eds 1994, *Flora of Victoria*, Volume 2, Inkata Press, Melbourne.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Bicheno, Communication, Dunalley, Kerford, Lyme Regis, Melaleuca, New Norfolk, Riedle, St Helens, Studland, Taroona.

Date last modified: 18/08/03