Lepilaena preissii



Lepilaena. preissii.
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

FAMILY: ZANNICHELLIACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Lepilaena preissii,* (Lehm.) F.Muell., *Fragm*. 8: 217 (1874)

COMMON NAME: Slender water mat

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*) Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

A slender annual herb with horizontal stems that are between 0.3-0.5 mm in diameter. **Leaves:** The leaf sheaths are membranous and up to 10 mm long on lower leaves and shorter on the upper leaves. The blades are thread-like, between 1-6 cm long and 0.1-0.3 mm wide with a pointed tip. **Flowers:** The flowers of this species are either male or female. The flowers may be solitary or in clusters. If they are in clusters, both male and female flowers may be found or sometimes just one sex only. Flowering occurs from September to November. **Fruit:** The small, dry, leathery fruit is oblong and approximately 1.5 mm long (description from Curtis & Morris 1994, Hughes *et al*. 1989).

Distribution and Habitat

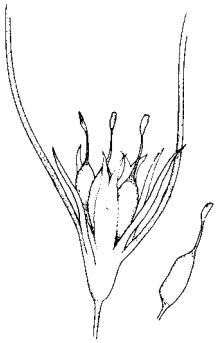
On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia. In Tasmania, *Lepilaena preissii* is found in fresh and brackish lagoons, and estuaries in the north-east, on the East Coast and also on King and Flinders Island (Curtis & Morris 1994). Records are unavailable for King and Flinders Island.

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include Calverts Lagoon, South Arm, Macquarie River 2 and Macquarie River 4.

Known Reserves

Reserved in the South Arm State Recreation Area (Calverts Lagoon).



Lepilaena. preissii fruit.
D. Morris.

Ecology and Management

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

Conservation Status Assessment

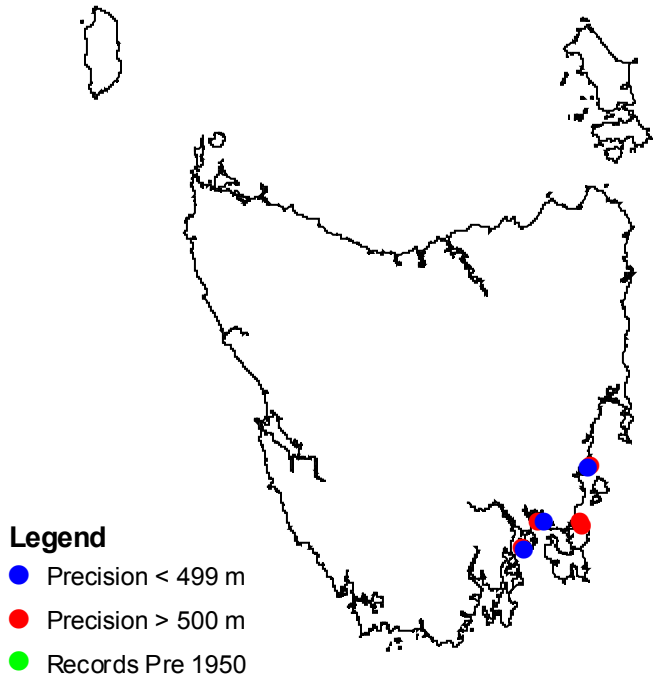
There is not enough information available to enable a meaningful reassessment of *Lepilaena preissii.* The distribution of this species requires clarification.

Further Information

- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1994, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania,* Part 4B, Printing Authority of Tasmania, Hobart.
- Hughes, JMR & Davis, GL 1989, *Aquatic Plants of Tasmania*, University of Melbourne Press, Melbourne.
- Sainty, GR, Jacobs, SWL 1981, *Water Plants of New South Wales*, Water Resources Commission, New South Wales.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, May 2003).



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Blackmans Bay, Bougainville, Carlton, Dunalley.

Date last modified: 18/08/03