

Levenhookia dubia



Levenhookia dubia. R. Hale.

FAMILY: STYLIDIACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Levenhookia dubia*,
Sonder in Lehm., *Pl. Preiss.* 1: 392 (1845)

COMMON NAME: Hairy stylewort

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) presumed
extinct

Description

An ephemeral herb that is densely covered in oily hairs. **Stems:** The stems are reddish, slender, erect and usually simple, with shortly stalked flowers (between 2-6 cm tall). **Leaves:** The leaves are oval-shaped (with the top half broader than the bottom) nearly stalkless and arranged alternately along the stem. The leaves on the lower parts of the stem can be reddish in colour, those on the upper parts of the stem are green. **Flowers:** The pinkish/white flowers have yellowish, oily throats and are more or less clustered at the ends of the stems. The flowers are tubular towards the base separating into rounded lobes at the top. Each petal has a slight notch at the top. Flowering is from August to November (Flora of Victoria). **Fruit:** The fruit is a spherical capsule, approximately 2 mm in diameter (description from Cunningham *et al.* 1992, Curtis 1963).

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Western Australia, South Australia and Victoria. In Tasmania, *Levenhookia dubia* has been recorded from the Bass Strait Islands, Mt. Field and north of Hobart between Brighton and Pontville. Leonard Rodway collected the specimens in the early 1900s. Kirkpatrick (1991) suggests that suitable habitat for *Levenhookia dubia* includes moist, often sandy ground in shallow soils on rock ledges.

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include the Bass Strait Islands, Mt. Field and north of Hobart between Brighton and Pontville.

Known Reserves

This species is not currently known from any reserve.

Ecology and Management

On the mainland, this species is only present in years with good rainfall (Cunningham *et al.* 1992).

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

Conservation Status Assessment

There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Levenhookia dubia*.

Further Information

- Cunningham, GM, Mulham, W, Milthorpe, P & Leigh, J 1992, *Plants of Western New South Wales*, Inkata Press, Sydney.
- Curtis, WM 1963, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 2, Government Printer, Hobart.
- Kirkpatrick, JB 1991, *Tasmanian Native Bush: A Management Handbook*, Tasmanian Environment Centre, Hobart.

Tasmanian Distribution

There is no distribution information available for *Levenhookia dubia*.

Date last modified: 18/08/03