

# *Pellaea calidirupium*



*Pellaea calidirupium*.  
M. Garrett.

**FAMILY:** ADIANTACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Pellaea calidirupium*,  
Brownsey & Lovis, *N.Z. J. Bot.* 28: 197 (1990)

**COMMON NAME:** Hot-rock fern

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

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

## Description

A perennial fern with a long, creeping underground stem (rhizome). The fertile fronds are mid-green in colour and between 20-50 cm long. The sterile fronds are shorter. The frond stem is between 10-23 cm long, pale brown and darker near the base. The frond consists of leaflets, which are not divided further and are arranged alternately along the stem. The clusters of spores on the lower surface (sori) are attached continuously around the margins of the leaflets (Garrett 1996).

## Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Queensland and Victoria. It is also known from New Zealand. In Tasmania *Pellaea calidirupium* is found in inland, rocky habitats in areas of low to moderate rainfall. It grows in crevices and on ledges on exposed or semi-exposed rock outcrops. *Pellaea calidirupium* is found predominantly in the eastern half of Tasmania (Garrett 1996, Harden 1990).

## Key Sites and Populations

A large sterile colony occurs on the bare summit of Casaveen Bluff (east of York Plains), while nearby, on a tributary of the Little Swanport River plants grow under more favourable conditions on a rock ledge within the protection of a rock gully. Other important sites include Dogs Head Hill, Denison Rivulet, Bagdad Rivulet, Side creek off Little Swanport River, Staircase Gorge (Elizabeth River), Red Rock, River Clyde (downstream from Clyde Falls), Mt. Foster area, Bare Rock (Mt. Malcolm), Mt. Durham (above Valley Road), Lake River Road, ridge west of Ormley Creek, Twelve O Clock Hill (south-west of Bicheno), Apsley Gorge (near Apsley River), east of Bonneys Plains Road, Pepper Creek, Weegen, and the Shannon River.

### **Known Reserves**

Reserved in the Barway Spur Regional Reserve, Break O Day Forest Reserve, Dog Kennels Regional Reserve, Dogs Head Hill Forest Reserve, Douglas-Apsley National Park, Huntsmans Cap Forest Reserve and the St Pauls Regional Reserve.

### **Ecology and Management**

*Pellaea* has the properties of a resurrection plant, as the cell contents of the leaves are able to revive after desiccation (Duncan & Isaac 1986). As a rhizomatous species, it is likely that *Pellaea calidirupium* can resprout following low intensity disturbance.

### **Conservation Status Assessment**

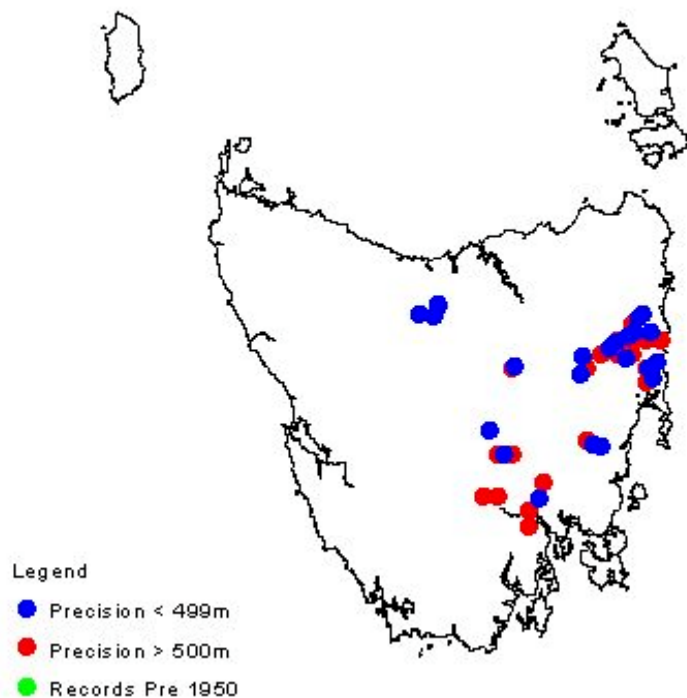
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Pellaea calidirupium*.

### **Further Information**

- Duncan, BD & Isaac, G 1986, *Ferns and Allied Plants of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia*, Melbourne University Press, Melbourne.
- Garrett, M 1996, *The Ferns of Tasmania: Their Ecology and Distribution*, Tasmanian Forest Research Council, Hobart.
- Harden, GJ ed 1990, *Flora of New South Wales*, Volume 1, Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, Sydney.

## **Tasmanian Distribution**

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



### **1:25 000 Map Sheets**

Apslawn, Bains, Bicheno, Bothwell, Bushy Park, Cawood, Colinsvale, Diamond, Dublin Town, Fingal, Gog, Hanleth, Henry, Hermitage, Lemont, New Norfolk, O Connors, Picaninny, Ravensdale, Rossarden, Royalty, St John, St Marys, St Pauls Dome, Tea Tree.

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