

Persoonia moscalii



Persoonia moscalii
(Images by Richard Schahinger)

FAMILY: PROTEACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Persoonia moscalii*,
Orch., *Brunonia* 6:238, fig.12 (1984)

COMMON NAME: creeping geebung

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

A prostrate shrub that forms dense mats up to one metre in diameter. The branches grow close to the soil but do not form roots. The older branches are hairless with reddish-brown flaky bark. The younger branches are densely covered with long, soft hairs. **Leaves:** The leaves are broader towards the tips, which are round and blunt. They are fleshy, with no visible veins and measure between 6–8 mm long and 3–4 mm wide (gradually tapering towards the base). All the leaves are erect, and those borne on the underside of the ground-dwelling branches are twisted upwards. **Flowers:** The yellow flowers are nearly stalkless and arranged singly in the leaf axils. The flowers are fleshy, between 9–10 mm long and 2–2.5 mm wide and have scattered hairs on the outer surface. The inner surface is hairless. Flowering occurs between February and March. **Fruit:** The fruit is fleshy, reddish-purple, smooth, shiny and round to oval, about 10 mm long (description from Orchard 1983).

Distribution and Habitat

Persoonia moscalii is endemic to Tasmania's southwest. It has been recorded from the Wilmot Range, Frankland Range, Bathurst Range and Melaleuca Range. Habitat includes alpine heath and fjældmark, the latter characterised by scattered wind-pruned low shrubs and cushions interspersed with exposed, stony ground (Kirkpatrick 1997).

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include the upper southern slopes of Mt. Counsel, and the Wilmot and Frankland Ranges between Islet Lake and Double Peak.

Known Reserves

Reserved in Southwest Conservation Area and Southwest National Park.



Plate 1. *Persoonia moscalii* habitat on the southern slopes of Mt Counsel

Ecology and Management

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

Conservation Status Assessment

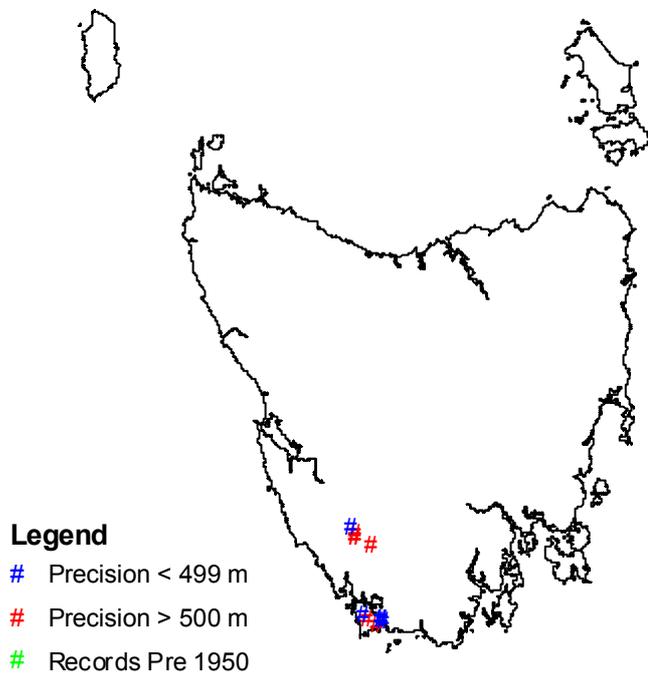
There is no immediate need for a reassessment of *Persoonia moscalii*.

Further Information

- Kirkpatrick, J.B. (1997). *Alpine Tasmania*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.
- Orchard, A.E. (1983). The Tasmanian Species of *Persoonia*, Smith (Proteaceae). *Brunonia* 6: 217–40.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Section records, January 2010)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Cox, Melaleuca, Rookery, Solitary, View.

Date last modified: 25/01/2010

View

<http://www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/threatenedspecieslists>

Contact details

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Permit

It is an offence to collect, disturb, damage or destroy this species unless under permit.