

# *Planocarpa nitida*



*Planocarpa nitida*.  
Tasmanian herbarium specimen.

**FAMILY:** EPACRIDACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Planocarpa nitida*,  
(Jarman) Weiller, *Aust. Syst. Bot.* 9(4): 517  
(1996)

**COMMON NAME:** Shiny cheeseberry

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

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

## Description

A dark-green compact shrub to 40 cm tall. **Stems:** The stems are erect and brown to grey-brown. The branchlets are brown or red-brown, hairy and slightly ribbed. **Leaves:** The leaves are oval-shaped, thick, flat (or slightly convex) and have tips that taper into a sharp point. They are between 5.5-7.8 mm long and 1.6-2 mm wide. The upper leaf surfaces are hairless or sparsely hairy (extending from the base up the centre of the leaf) with 1-3 shallow grooves. The lower leaf surfaces are matt bluish-green (or close to) and hairless with 3 faint veins. **Flowers:** The cream-white flowers are solitary on stalks that are between 1-1.8 mm long. The flowers are thin, bell-shaped, between 2.9-3.3 mm long and internally hairy. **Fruit:** The fruit is fleshy (drupe), red-black in colour, shiny and between 5-7 mm high and 5-7 mm wide (description from Kirkpatrick 1997, Weiller 1996). Herbarium specimens have been collected from September to March. **This species was previously known *Cyathodes nitida*.**

## Distribution and Habitat

*Planocarpa nitida* is endemic to Tasmania and is found in boulder/rocky situations, low open woodland and heath on the sand dunes of the eastern Central Plateau (near Augusta). Also known from other localities on the Central Plateau. This species is closely associated with *Monotoca empetrifolia*, *Orites acicularis*, *Orites revoluta*, *Lissanthe montana* and *Leptospermum rupestre* (Weiller 1996).

## Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include Lake Augusta, Lake Field, Julian Lakes, Little Split Rock, Layatinna Hill and Wild Dog Plains.

### Known Reserves

This species is reserved in the Central Plateau Conservation Area, Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair National Park and the Mole Creek Karst National Park.

### Ecology and Management

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

### Conservation Status Assessment

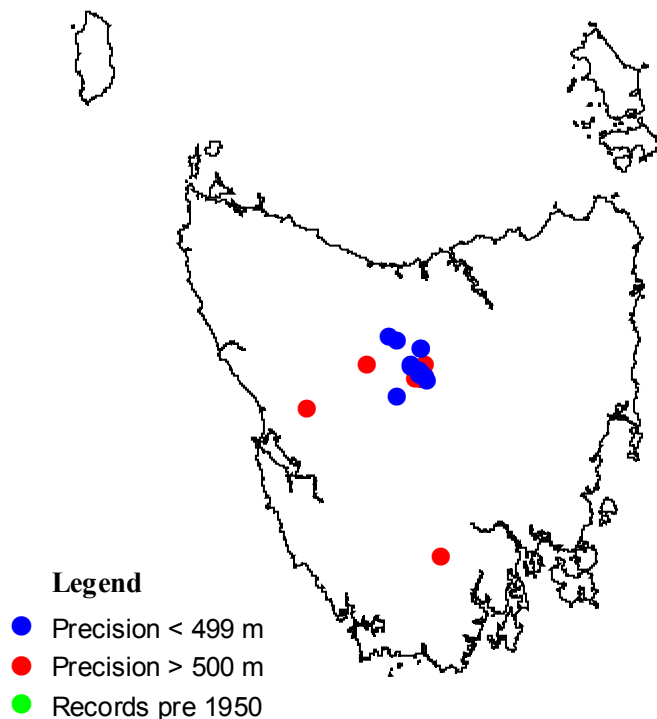
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Planocarpa nitida*.

### Further Information

- Kirkpatrick, JB 1997, *Alpine Tasmania*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne.
- Weiller, CM 1996, 'Planocarpa (Epacridaceae) a New generic Name', *Australian Systematic Botany*, Vol.9, pp.509-519.
- Weiller, CM 1996, 'Reassessment of *Cyathodes* (Epacridaceae)', *Australian Systematic Botany*, Vol.9, pp.491-507.

### Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



### 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Ada, Breona, Gormanston, Mole Creek, Nevada, Olive, Pillans, Quamby Bluff, Rowallan, Split Rock.

Date last modified: 03/09/03