

Poa halmaturina



Poa halmaturina.
R. Schahinger.

FAMILY: POACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Poa halmaturina*,
J.Black, *Trans. R. Soc. S. Aust.* 66: 248
(1943)

COMMON NAME: Kangaroo island grass

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

A small, fine, erect hairless perennial up to 25 cm tall with slender spreading rhizomes (underground stems). The rhizomes have thin, long, pointed scales. **Stems:** The stems are erect, very fine and long (they usually extend beyond the leaves). **Leaves:** The thread-like blades are up to 16 cm long and pale or yellowish-green in colour. They are also smooth, fine and taper into a very fine point. The sheaths that surround the base of the leaves are thin and pale, often faintly purple. The sheaths of the upper leaves are pale green, smooth and obviously ribbed with membranous margins. **Seedhead (panicle):** The seedhead is up to 3 cm long with short, erect branches. **Spikelets (units of the seedhead):** The spikelets are pale green, straw coloured or purplish and have 2-5 flowers. The glumes (leaf-like structures that surround the spikelets) are approximately equal in length, the upper glume is slightly broader. Flowering occurs from November to February (Flora of Victoria). **Seed cover (lemma):** The seed cover is between 3-4 mm long (description from Curtis & Morris 1994). Herbarium specimens have been collected from December to March.

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in South Australia. The distribution of *Poa halmaturina* in Tasmania is restricted to coastal dunes and heath on King Island, the Furneaux Group and in the south-west of the State (Curtis & Morris 1994).

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include Surprise Bay, Wingaroo Road and Pegg Creek (Hartwell Cove).

Known Reserves

Reserved in the Seal Rocks State Reserve and the Southwest Conservation Area.

Ecology and Management

Wind is the most likely pollination vector for this species (A. Hingston pers. comm.).

Conservation Status Assessment

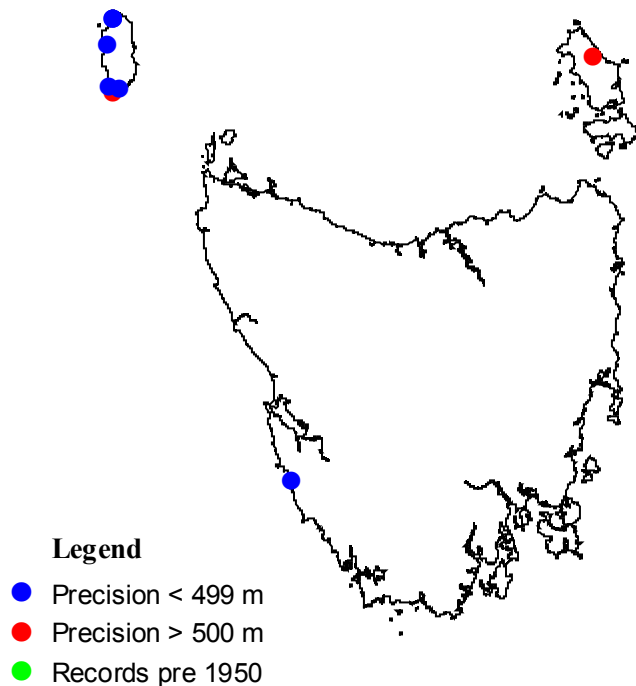
There is not enough information available to enable a meaningful reassessment of *Poa halmaturina*.

Further Information

- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1994, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 4B, Printing Authority of Tasmania, Hobart.
- Kirkpatrick, JB 1991, *Tasmanian Native Bush: A Management Handbook*, Tasmanian Environment Centre, Hobart.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Loorana, Memana, Montgomery, New Year, Stokes.

Date last modified: 03/09/03