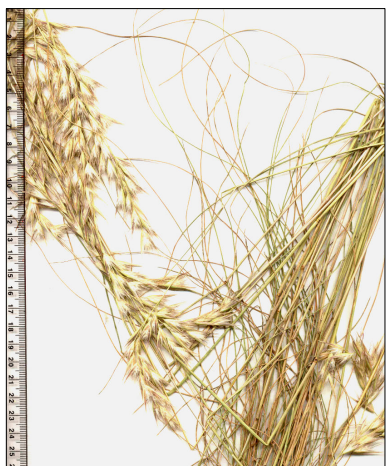


# *Rytidosperma indutum*



*Rytidosperma indutum*  
Tasmanian herbarium specimen

**FAMILY:** POACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Rytidosperma indutum*  
(Vickery) Connor & Edgar, *New Zealand J. Bot.*  
17: 332 (1979)

**COMMON NAME:** tall wallabygrass

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

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

## Description

An erect, tufted perennial up to 120 cm tall. **Stems:** The stems are smooth and hairless. **Leaves:** The blades are up to 25 cm long, tightly inrolled above and approximately 1.5 mm wide at the base. The tips are folded and can be covered in tiny rough hairs. The sheaths that surround the base of the leaves are marked with fine lines and are much shorter than the internodes (spaces between stem joints). **Seedheads (panicle):** The inflorescence is protruding and 7–15 cm long. The branches and flower stalks are covered in tiny rough hairs. **Spikelets (units of the seedhead):** The spikelets are 4–5 flowered, straw coloured or tinged purple, with florets that are much shorter than the glumes (leaf-like structures surrounding spikelet) except for the protruding awn (long hair-like projection from seed). The glumes are 14–18 mm long and firm. **Seed cover (lemma):** The body of the seed cover is up to 5 mm long. The long hair like projection (awn) is situated in the middle of the seed cover and is approximately 15 mm long (description from Curtis & Morris 1994). Most herbarium specimens have been collected from November to February. **Previously known as** *Austrodanthonia induta*, *Austrodanthonia procera*, *Rytidosperma procerum* or *Danthonia procera*.

## Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland *Rytidosperma indutum* occurs in New South Wales and Victoria. In Tasmania the species is known from the Midlands, Southeast and East Coast of the State. It occurs on mudstone and dolerite in open, dry sclerophyll woodlands (Curtis & Morris 1994).

## Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include Bellerive, Blackmans Bay, Mt Nelson, Ridson, South Arm Road, Old Coach Road (north of Cranbrook), Poatina, Liffey, Glen Esk Road, McRobies Gully, Ridgeway, Porter Hill, Meehan Range near Tunnel Hill.

### **Known Reserves**

This species is found in East Risdon State Reserve, Gordons Hill Nature Recreation Area, Meehan Range Nature Recreation Area, Molesworth Conservation Recreation Area and Powranna Nature Reserve.

### **Ecology and Management**

*Rytidosperma indutum* can regenerate by resprouting after damage and is often found in open areas along road and track edges after fire. Reproduction increases after fire and other gap forming disturbance (TPLUC 1996).

This species is suffering incremental loss due to agricultural and residential development.

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

### **Conservation Status Assessment**

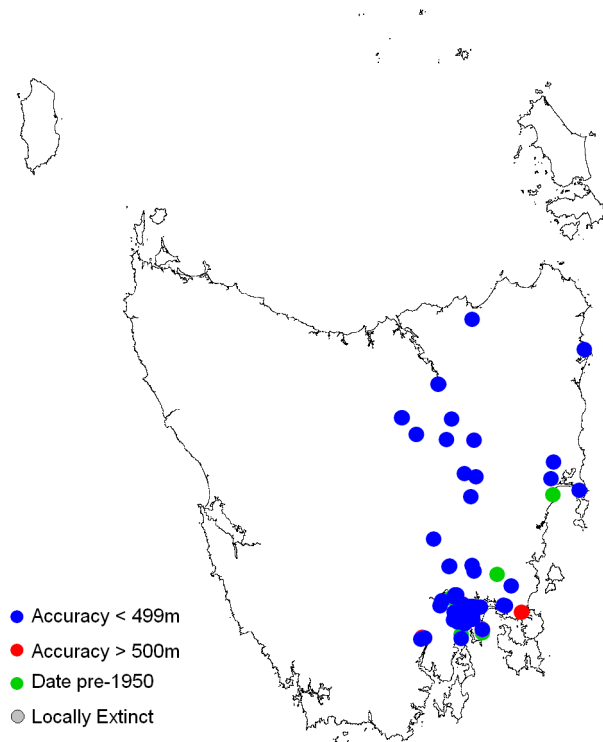
*Rytidosperma indutum* should be reassessed for possible delisting.

### **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 Public Land Use Commission 1996, *Environment & Heritage Report Vol IV, Background Report*, Part C, Tasmanian Commonwealth Regional Forest Agreement, Hobart.

## Tasmanian Distribution

(From Natural Values Atlas Records, August 2008)



### 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Apslawn, Bains, Binalong, Blackmans Bay, Bothwell, Bowood, Carlton, Collinsvale, Conara, Cranbrook, Cremorne, Coles Bay, Delmont, Dunalley, Elderslie, Ellinthorp, Glen Huon, Hobart, Huonville, Liffey, New Norfolk, Nile, Poatina, Prospect, Richmond, Runnymede, Sandspit, Swansea, Taroon, Tunbridge.

Date last modified: 12/8/2008 (name updated 5/10/2012)

### View

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

### Contact details

Threatened Species Section, Department of Primary Industries and Water, GPO Box 44, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, 7001. Phone (03) 6233 6556; fax (03) 6233 3477.

### Permit

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