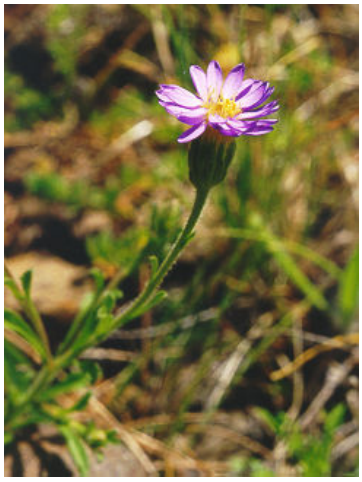
Vittadinia cuneata var. *cuneata*



Vittadinia cuneata var. *cuneata*. H&A Wapstra.

FAMILY: ASTERACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Vittadinia cuneata* var. *cuneata,* DC., *Prodr*. 5: 281 (1836)

COMMON NAME: **f**uzzy new-holland-daisy

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*) Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Description

A perennial herb with woody stems up to 40 cm high. **Leaves:** The leaves are arranged alternately along the stem. They are between 5-30 mm long and can be variable in shape (usually three lobed at the tip, greyish green and covered with rigid, short hairs). **Flowers:** The flower heads are numerous, purple, mauve or white with a yellow center and borne singly at the ends of leafy stalks between 6-10 cm long. Flowering occurs mainly in spring. **Fruit:** The seeds are narrow, linear-wedge shaped, 4-7 mm long with a crown of numerous bristles as long as or longer than the seed. Herbarium specimens have been collected from October to April. **Confusing species:** This species is similar in appearance to *Vittadinia gracilis* but is distinguished by the presence of the short rigid hairs which give *Vittadinia cuneata* var. *cuneata* a greyish-green appearance, whereas the thick woolly hairs on the leaves of *Vittadinia gracilis* give it a greyish appearance (description from Cunningham *et al.* 1992, Kirkpatrick *et al.* 1998). **This species was previously known as *Vittadinia cuneata,* and was a component of *Vittadinia triloba* (*sensu* W.M. Curtis 1963).**

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia. In Tasmania, *Vittadinia cuneata* var. *cuneata* occurs in areas of low precipitation on both fertile and infertile soils. Predominantly found in dry sclerophyll forest around Hobart, into the midlands and extending up into the north-east (Duncan & Johnson 1995, TPLUC 1996).

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include Broadmarsh Road, Swansea, Fingal, Township Lagoon (Tunbridge), Prince of Wales Bay (Derwent River), St. Marys Church graveyard (Gretna), Tasman Highway near Lake Leake junction, Hamilton Plains, between Kempton and Melton Mowbray, Hollow Tree Road (Lyell Highway) and between Stonor and Mt Seymour.

Known Reserves

Reserved in the Township Lagoon Nature Reserve and Wellington Park.

Ecology and Management

This species is threatened by grazing, however construction of quarries and tracks (which create bare ground) is beneficial due to a reduction in competition (TPLUC 1996). In some locations this is achieved in bare patches associated with tree roots (Kirkpatrick 2007).

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

Conservation Status Assessment

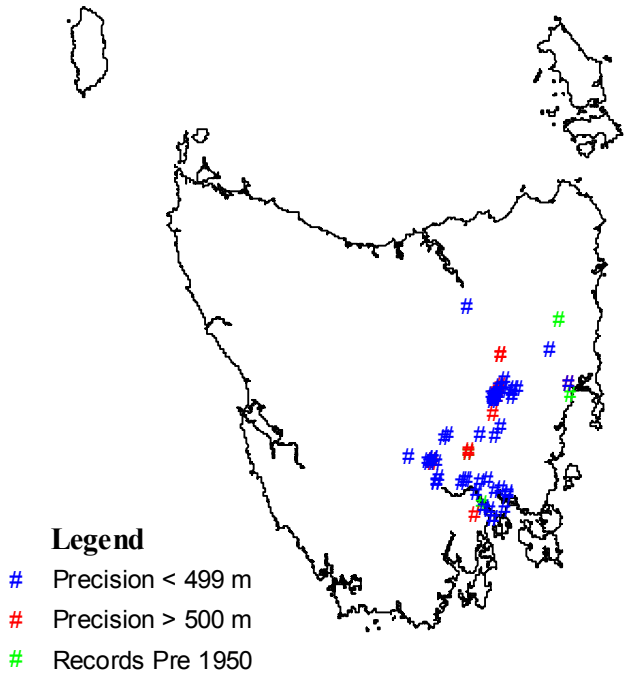
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Vittadinia cuneata* var. *cuneata.*

Further Information

- Cunningham, GM, Mulham, W, Milthorpe, P & Leigh, J 1992, *Plants of Western New South Wales*, Inkata Press, Sydney.
- Duncan, BD & Isaac, G 1986, *Ferns and Allied Plants of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia,* Melbourne University Press, Melbourne.
- Kirkpatrick JB 2007, Collateral benefit: unconscious conservation of threatened plant species. *Australian Journal of Botany,* vol. 55, pp 221–224.
- Kirkpatrick, JB, Gilfedder L & Fensham RJ 1988, *City Parks and Cemeteries: Tasmania's Remnant Grasslands and Grassy Woodlands*, Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Hobart.
- Tasmanian Public Land Use Commission 1996, *Environment & Heritage Report Vol IV, Background Report,* Part C, Tasmanian Commonwealth Regional Forest Agreement, Hobart.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Bothwell, Broadmarsh, Bushy Park, Carlton, Cawood, Collinsvale, Conara, Cranbrook, Ellinthorp, Fingal, Hamilton, Hobart, Kempton, Longford, Morriston, Oatlands, Ouse, Richmond, Ross, Roys, Sorell, Stonor, Swansea, Taroona, Tea Tree, Tunbridge, Vincents.

Date last modified: 22/08/03