

Pimelea flava ssp. *flava*



Pimelea flava ssp. *flava*.
G. Jordan.

FAMILY: THYMELAEACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Pimelea flava* ssp. *flava*, R.Br. *Prodr.* 361 (1810)

COMMON NAME: Yellow rice flower

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (EPBC Act)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (TSP Act) unlisted
(delisted from rare, August 2024)

Description

This species is a slender, erect plant with branches that are silky to almost hairless and between 60-120 cm tall. There are usually separate male and female plants. **Leaves:** The leaves are erect, often crowded and arranged oppositely on the stem. They are flat, nearly stalkless, oblong or almost round with a leathery texture. Both surfaces are hairless and they have prominent midribs and veins. The whole leaf is between 4-8 mm long and turns bright bluish-green when dried. **Flowers:** The inflorescences are erect heads on the ends of the branches. The flowers are mostly unisexual, the male flowers with a floral tube between 3-4 mm long that is hairy, yellow and with spreading lobes. The female flowers are smaller with lobes that are nearly erect. Flowering is from June to February (Flora of Victoria). **Fruit:** The fruit is dry (description from Curtis 1967). Herbarium specimens have been collected from May to February. **This species was previously known as *Pimelea flava*.**

Distribution and Habitat

This species stretches from the York Peninsula in South Australia to East Gippsland in Victoria. The Tasmanian distribution extends from the south-east to the north. *Pimelea flava* ssp. *flava* prefers moderately fertile sites, such as shrubby *Eucalyptus amygdalina* (black peppermint) damp sclerophyll forest with co-dominants of *Eucalyptus obliqua* (stringy bark), *Eucalyptus ovata* (black gum) and *Eucalyptus pulchella* (white peppermint) or shrubby *Eucalyptus amygdalina* forest on dolerite in sub coastal areas (Adamczewski 2001). No other subspecies of *Pimelea flava* occur in Tasmania.



Pimelea flava ssp. *flava*. R. Glazik

Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include Kangaroo Valley (Lenah Valley), Murdunna, Coles Bay Road near Moulting Lagoon, Copping, Orford, near Moulting Bay and River Apsley, George Town, Schofields Road on the Tasman Peninsula, Bicheno, Friendly Beaches, Tippogoree Hills (East Tamar), Mt. Stacey, Cusicks Hill, Mills Marsh, Roaring Magg Hill and Low Head.

Known Reserves

Reserved in the Coles Bay Conservation Area, Douglas-Apsley National Park, Freycinet National Park, Long Reach Conservation Area, Long Reach Private Sanctuary, Moulting Lagoon Game Reserve, Mount William National Park, Roaring Magg Hill Forest Reserve, Tippogoree Hills Forest Reserve, and Wellington Park.

Ecology and Management

All *Pimelea* species respond positively to some disturbance, however there is a lack of information identifying responses to particular disturbances such as fire, grazing etc. *Pimelea flava* ssp. *flava* demonstrated intolerance to conditions of drought during survey work, which found many degraded plants. Land clearance has caused population of *Pimelea flava* ssp. *flava* to become perhaps more disjunct than other *Pimelea* species, as the sub coastal regions are target areas for urban development and agriculture. Further study is required to enhance ecological knowledge and prepare management guidelines for this species (Adamczewski 2001).

Butterflies and long-tongued flies are the most likely pollination vector for this species (A. Hingston pers. comm.).

Conservation Status Assessment

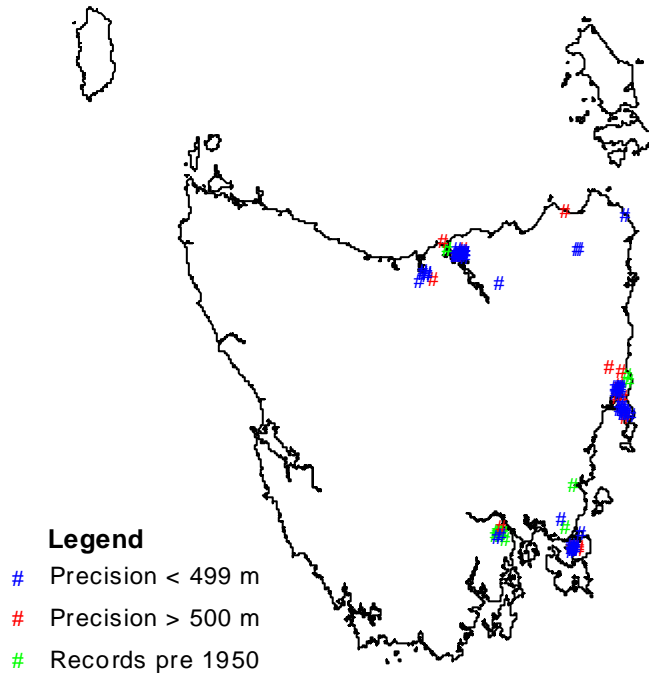
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Pimelea flava* ssp. *flava*.

Further Information

- Adamczewski, K 2001, *Habitat, Distribution and Conservation of Three Threatened Pimelea Species (Thymelaeaceae)*, BSC.Hons. Thesis, School of Plant Science, University of Tasmania, Hobart. Curtis, W.M. (1967) *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*. Part 3. Government Printer, Hobart.
- Curtis, WM 1967, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 3, Government Printer, Hobart.
- Gray, M & Knight, J eds 2001, *Flora of Melbourne: A Guide to the Indigenous Plants of the Greater Melbourne Area*, Hyland House Publishing, Melbourne.
- Kirkpatrick, JB, Barker, P, Brown, MJ, Harris, S & Mackie, R 1994, *The Reservation Status of Tasmanian Vascular Plant Communities*, Tasmanian Conservation Trust Incorporated, Hobart.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, February 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Bell Bay, Bicheno, Coles Bay, Collinsvale, Derby, Dunalley, Friendly, Harford, Henry, Hobart, Kelleve, Lodi, Low Head, Murdunna, Naturaliste, Orford, Patersonia, Tomahawk, West Frankford.

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