

# *Westringia angustifolia*



*Westringia angustifolia*  
(purple form). Scan E. Lazarus.

**FAMILY:** LAMIACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Westringia angustifolia*,  
R.Br., *Prodr.* 501 (1810)

**COMMON NAME:** Scabrous westringia

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

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

## Description

A shrub between 1-3 metres tall with slender but rigid spreading branches. **Leaves:** The leaves are usually in whorls of 3 (sometimes 2 or 4) on slender, erect stalks that are between 1-2 mm long. The leaf blades are spreading, approximately 1.5-3.5 mm long and can be slightly bent backwards with a rigid erect point at the tip. The upper surface is often covered in tiny rough hairs, the lower surface has soft, downy hairs. **Flowers:** The flowers are showy, stalked, solitary and situated in the axils (where leaves meet the stem) near the ends of the branches. The flowers are white or pale lilac with yellow and crimson or purple spots on the lower parts of the throat. **Fruit:** The fruit is a nutlet with a deeply wrinkled network of veins running across the surface (description from Curtis 1967). Most herbarium specimens have been collected from October to December.

## Distribution and Habitat

This species is endemic to Tasmania and is found predominantly in dry, shrubby understorey, often on dolerite and associated with other endemic species from 300 to 900 metres (Curtis 1967). It is often associated with riverbanks (M. Wapstra pers. comm.).

### **Key Sites and Populations**

Key sites include Butlers Gorge, Bronte Park, Pine Tier Lagoon, Snug Tiers, Snug Plains, Recherche Bay, Southport, Hansons Mill Road, Perrins Ridge, Jubilee Range, Russell River, Hamilton, Glen Leith, Longley, Razor Back, Mt Wellington and Neika, Clarence River, Marlborough, Pelverata Falls and Bothwell. Populations can occupy hectares and consist of 100s to 1000s of individuals (M. Wapstra pers. comm.).

### **Known Reserves**

Reserved in the Mole Creek Karst National Park, Snug Tiers Nature Recreation Area, Southwest National Park and the Wentworth Creek Forest Reserve.

### **Ecology and Management**

A lack of recent records for some previously known populations are indicative of a decline in the distribution of the species.

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

### **Conservation Status Assessment**

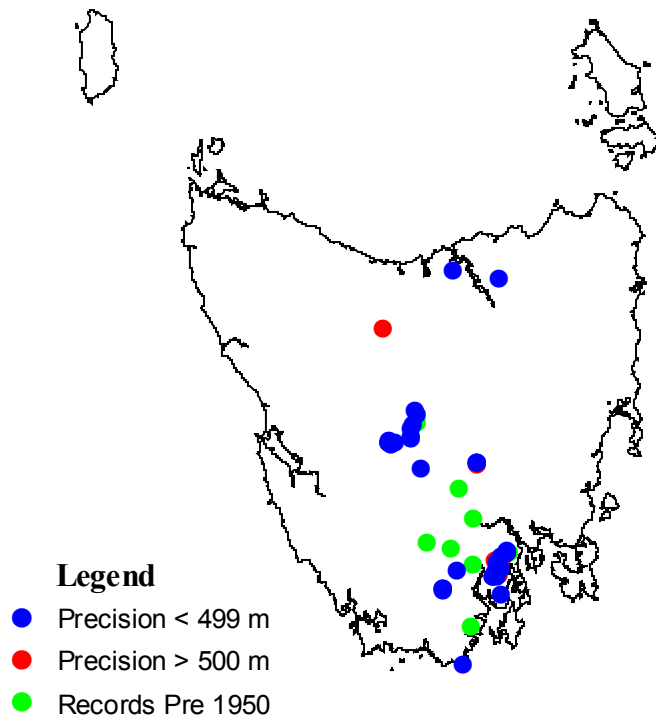
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Westringia angustifolia*.

### **Further Information**

- Curtis, WM 1967, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 3, Government Printer, Hobart.

## Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



### 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Arrowsmith, Beaconsfield, Bronte, Burgess, Cawood, Cygnet, D'Arcys, Glen Huon, Hamilton, Hastings, Huonville, Ina, Liena, Lilydale, Longley, Lonnvale, Lymington, Majors, Picton, Recherche, Skeleton, Strickland, Taroon, Tarraleah, Uxbridge.

Date last modified: 02/09/03