

Zygophyllum billardierei



FAMILY: ZYGOPHYLLACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Zygophyllum billardierei*, DC., *Prodr.* 1: 705 (1824)

COMMON NAME: Coastal twin leaf

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*) Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Zygophyllum billardierei.
Photographs: H & A Wapstra.

Description

A perennial herb with ground spreading stems that are very branched and between 20-40 mm long. **Leaves:** The leaves are Y-shaped, each one consists of two fleshy, bright green thin leaflets with stalks at the base. The tips of the leaves are blunt. **Flowers:** There are usually 4 flowers, which are yellow, approximately 10 mm long and borne singly in the leaf axils (where the stem meets the leaf). Flowering is predominantly from June to December (Flora of Victoria). **Fruit:** The fruit is a drooping, 4-angled capsule that is between 10-12 mm long, triangular in outline and cut off bluntly at the tip, where there is a small point. The seeds are brown and almost triangular, there is 1-2 in each of the four cells (description from Cunningham *et al.* 1992, Curtis & Morris 1975).

Distribution and Habitat

This species is recorded from throughout temperate Australia. In Tasmania, *Zygophyllum billardierei* is known from calcareous sands, forests, wetland and heath communities on the Furneaux Group (Curtis & Morris 1975, Underwood 1998).

Key Sites and Populations

The Furneaux Islands are key sites for this species.

Known Reserves

Reserved in the Forsythe Island Conservation Area, Kent Group National Park and the Sydney Cove Historic Site.

Ecology and Management

There is currently no information available regarding the ecology and management of this species.



Conservation Status Assessment

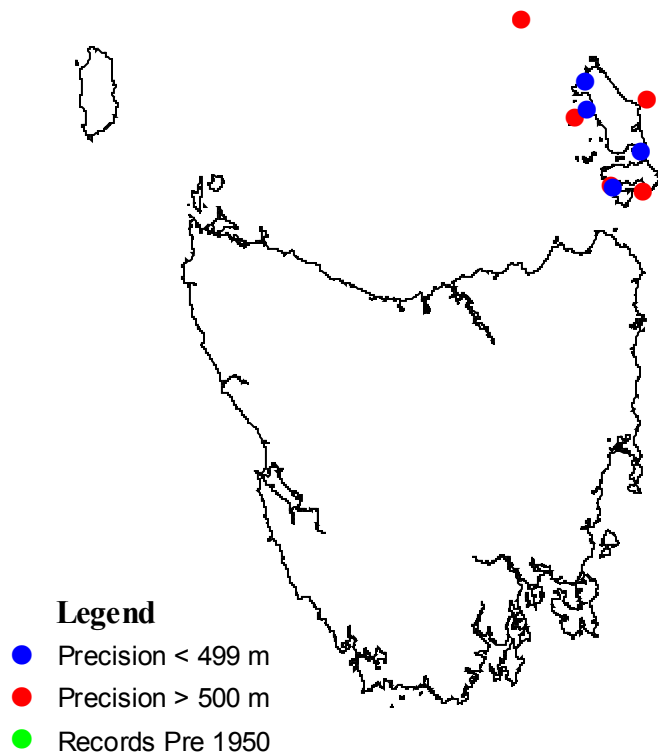
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Zygophyllum billardierei*.

Further Information

- Cunningham, GM, Mulham, W, Milthorpe, P & Leigh, J 1992, *Plants of Western New South Wales*, Inkata Press, Sydney.
- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1975, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 1, Government Printer, Hobart.
- Strickland, K & P 1994, *Peninsular Plants*, Volume Two, Kareelah Bush Nursery, Melbourne.
- Underwood, S 1998, *Synecology & Conservation of Vegetation on Aeolian Calcarenite, Flinders Island, Bass Strait*, BAppSc thesis, University of Tasmania.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Emita, Fisher, Palana, Passage, Patriarchs, Preservation, Wybalenna.

Date last modified: 03/09/03