

# *Banksia serrata*



*Banksia serrata*.  
Photographs: H & A Wapstra.

**FAMILY:** PROTEACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Banksia serrata*, L.f.,  
*Suppl. Pl.* 126 (1782)

**COMMON NAME:** Saw banksia

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

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

## Description

A shrub or small tree to 12 m tall. **Leaves:** The adult leaves are oblong to lance-shaped and between 8-16 cm long and 1.5-3 cm wide. They are very coarsely serrated and have a very leathery texture. The upper surface is green and hairless, with the lower surface paler and often with a prominent rust-coloured midrib. **Flowers:** The flowers are in spikes between 8-16 cm tall and very thick. The individual flower parts (perianth) are yellow and silky with the style becoming straight and the stigmatic end (surface receptive to pollen) around 2 mm long and narrowly cone shaped with a slightly thicker base. Flowering is from January to June (Flora of Victoria). **Fruit:** The fruit of this species is a cone containing numerous woody capsules that are approximately 2.5 cm broad (description from Curtis 1967).

## Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species is widespread along the East Coast from Fraser Island down to Wilsons Promontory and incorporates the States of Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria. In Tasmania, *Banksia serrata* is known from open woodland and sedgeland around Sisters Hills near Rocky Cape and in the Wingaroo area on Flinders Island (Cullen 1992).

## Key Sites and Populations

This species is confined to 3-5 populations at Sisters Beach and on Flinders Island. There is a total of 3 000-10 000 individuals over a 220 kilometre geographic range (TPLUC 1996).



### **Known Reserves**

Well reserved in the Rocky Cape National Park and the Wingaroo Nature Reserve.

### **Ecology and Management**

*Banksia serrata* is a fire sensitive species that recruits seedlings from seed that is stored in the canopy and released after fire. Adverse impacts include native grazing, inappropriate fire regimes, non-forestry harvesting, urban development and root rot (*Phytophthora cinnamoni*) (TPLUC 1996).

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

### **Conservation Status Assessment**

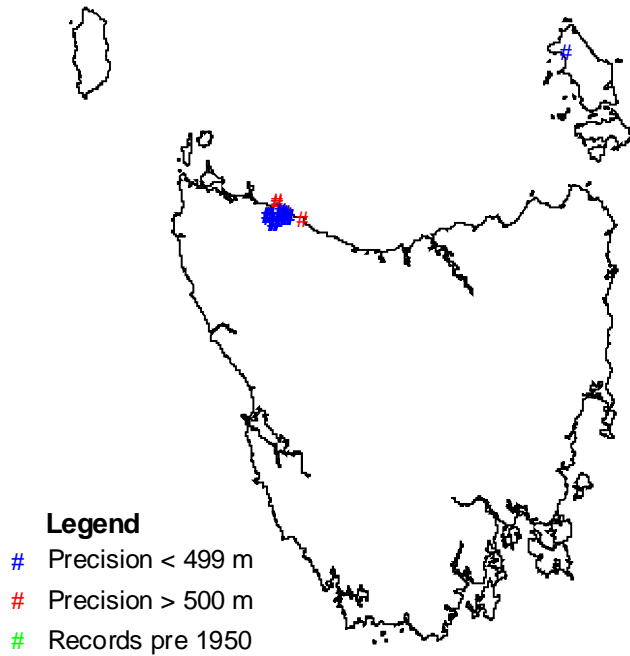
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Banksia serrata*. *Banksia serrata* woodland is considered to be a rare and endangered forest community under the RFA.

### **Further Information**

- Curtis, WM 1967, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 3, Government Printer, Hobart.
- Cullen, P 1992, 'A New Record for *Banksia serrata* in Tasmania', *The Tasmanian Naturalist*, January 1992, 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, February 2003)



### 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Mawbanna, Rocky Cape, Tanner, Wynyard.

Date last modified: 02/09/03