

Carex cephalotes



FAMILY: CYPERACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Carex cephalotes*,
F.Muell., *Trans. Phil. Soc. Vict.* 1: 110
(1855)

COMMON NAME: Mt Eliza sedge

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*) Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) rare

Carex cephalotes.
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

Description

A densely tufted, perennial sedge with underground stems (rhizomes) and stout roots. **Stems:** The stems are somewhat curved, slender, smooth and rigid when dry (between 2.5-5 cm long). **Leaves:** The leaves are dark green to bluish-green, flat and keeled towards their ends. They are also thick (1-1.5 mm broad), channelled and taper to a narrow point. **Seedhead:** The seedhead is arranged in a solitary spike (5-8 mm long) on a smooth stalk (2.5-5 cm tall). The female part is situated along the lower region of the seedhead and occupies a greater area than the male part. Flowering occurs in summer (Flora of Victoria). **Seed (nut):** The seed is dark greenish-brown and approximately 1.75 mm long, oblong in shape and rather flat. The ends of the seeds are rounded (description from Curtis & Morris 1994). The only herbarium specimen was collected in January.

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in New South Wales and Victoria. In Tasmania, *Carex cephalotes* is known only from a snow patch on the lee side of Mount Eliza in the western mountains at an altitude of 1 250 metres (Kirkpatrick 1997).

Key Sites and Populations

J. Davies collected this species once from Mount Eliza in 1982.

Known Reserves

Reserved in the Southwest National Park.

Ecology and Management

Wind is the most likely pollination vector for this species (A. Hingston pers. comm.).

Conservation Status Assessment

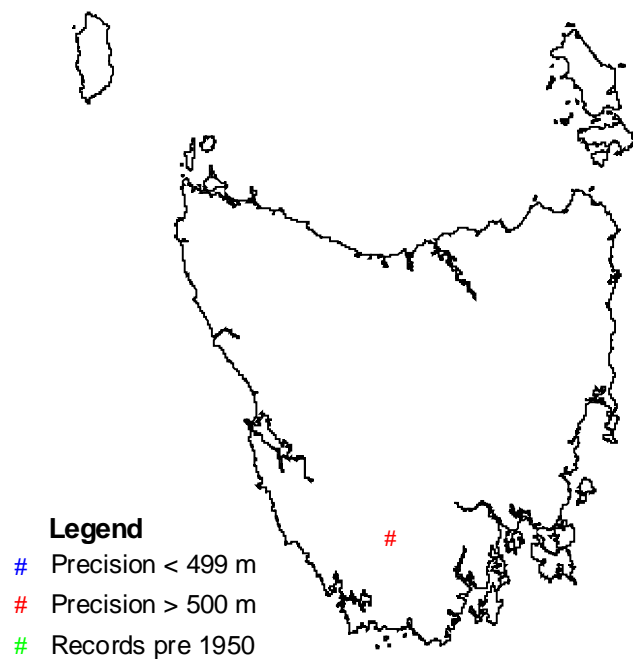
Carex cephalotes may warrant uplisting though further survey is required for a meaningful reassessment.

Further Information

- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1994, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 4B, Printing Authority of Tasmania, Hobart.
- Kirkpatrick, JB 1997, *Alpine Tasmania*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, March 2002)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Anne.

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