

# *Deyeuxia decipiens*



*Deyeuxia decipiens*.  
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

**FAMILY:** POACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Deyeuxia decipiens*,  
(R.Br.) Vickery, *Contr. N.S.W. Natl. Herb.* 1:  
70 (1940)

**COMMON NAME:** Trickery bent grass

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

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

## Description

An erect, tufted, hairless perennial to 70 cm tall. The mainland specimens are up to 100 cm high with seedheads up to 30 cm long. **Stem:** The stems are long and protrude from the tuft of basal leaves. They are also finely ribbed, smooth and have purple nodes (stem joints). **Leaves:** The blades of the basal leaves are up to 12 cm long, the upper leaves are much shorter. The base of the leaf blades (sheath) is ribbed, the lower minutely covered with tiny rough hairs, the upper nearly smooth with membranous margins. **Seedheads (panicle):** The seedhead is up to 15 cm long, with branches that are covered in tiny rough hairs (there are 2 branches in the Tasmanian species). The longer branch is naked for half the length with spikelets arranged in a raceme (succession along the stem with oldest flowers at the base) on short secondary branches towards the ends. The flowering stalks are between 0.5-2 mm long. **Spikelets (units of the seedhead):** The spikelets are between 2-2.5 mm long and fairly plump with leaf-like structures that surround the spikelet (glumes) that are unequal to nearly equal, the upper the longer. Flowering is from December to March (Flora of Victoria). **Seed cover (lemma):** The seed cover is slightly shorter than or exceeding the upper glume. It is slightly hardened and inconspicuously covered in tiny rough hairs. The top of the seed cover is slightly flattened and the awn (long hair-like projection) is minute, straight and inserted just below the tip of the seed cover (description from Curtis & Morris 1994). Herbarium specimens have been collected in January and February.

## Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria and New South Wales. In Tasmania, *Deyeuxia decipiens* is found under light forest cover around the central East Coast (Curtis & Morris 1994).

## Key Sites and Populations

Key sites for this species include Coles Bay and the Apsley River Catchment.

## Known Reserves

Reserved in the Douglas-Apsley National Park.

## Ecology and Management

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

## Conservation Status Assessment

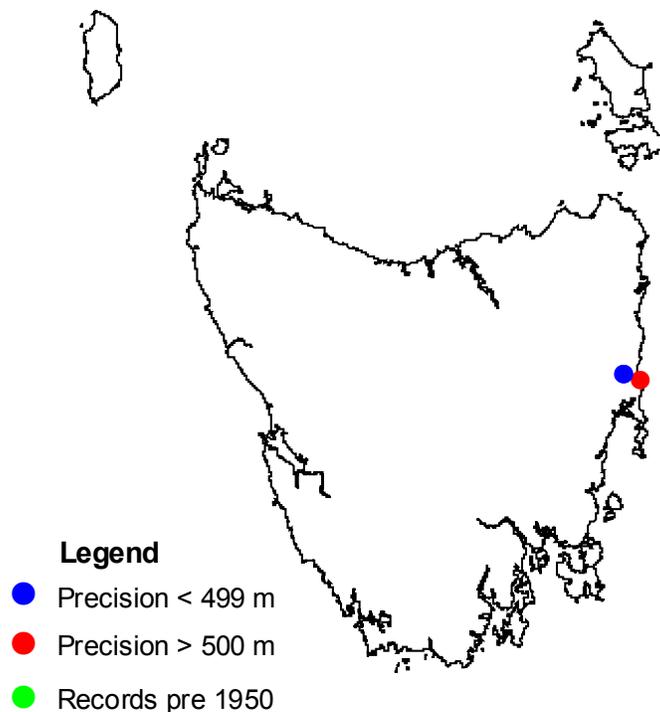
Reassessment of *Deyeuxia decipiens* may be warranted due to the paucity of records though more information may be required for a meaningful reassessment.

## Further Information

- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1994, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 4B, Printing Authority of Tasmania, Hobart.

## Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



## 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Bicheno, Henry.

Date last modified: 03/09/03