

# *Milligania longifolia*



*Milligania longifolia*.  
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

**FAMILY:** LILIACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Milligania longifolia*,  
Hook.f., *J. Bot. Kew Gard. Misc.* 5: 297 (1853)

**COMMON NAME:** Pendant milligania

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

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

## Description

A dense, tufted, perennial lily with hanging foliage and stout, fibrous roots. **Leaves:** The leaves are up to 90 cm long, 1.5 cm wide and broadly sheathing at the base. They are linear-shaped and the tips taper into long points. The mid-vein is prominent on both the upper and lower leaf surfaces. The margins and the midrib are scattered with long, spirally twisted hairs. **Flowers:** The flowers are white with reddish centres and arise individually on short, hairy stalks that are found towards the ends of a common, erect flowering stalk up to 50 cm tall. Flowering occurs between late October and early December. **Fruit:** The fruit is an oblong capsule between 4-6 mm long containing boat-shaped, beaked seeds that are approximately 2.5 mm long (description from Curtis & Morris 1994, Harris 1992).

## Distribution and Habitat

This species is endemic to Tasmania and occurs only on riverine cliffs of limestone and occasionally quartzite. *Milligania longifolia* is usually found in narrow ledges on crevices above normal flood level along the Franklin and Gordon Rivers in the south-west (at low altitudes). This species also occurs along the Vale River in Cradle Mountain at about 700 metres altitude (Curtis & Morris 1994, Harris 1992).



*Milligania longifolia* habitat.  
P. Cullen.

## Key Sites and Populations

Key sites include the Franklin, Gordon and Vale Rivers.

### **Known Reserves**

Reserved in the Cradle Mountain-Lake St. Clair and Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Parks.

### **Ecology and Management**

*Milligania longifolia* occupies an interesting riparian cliff habitat, which is often characterised by a lack of soil and moisture and suffers exposure to sun and wind. Cliff habitats may provide a refuge for species that are relict, rare or restricted in distribution (Cullen 1989).

### **Conservation Status Assessment**

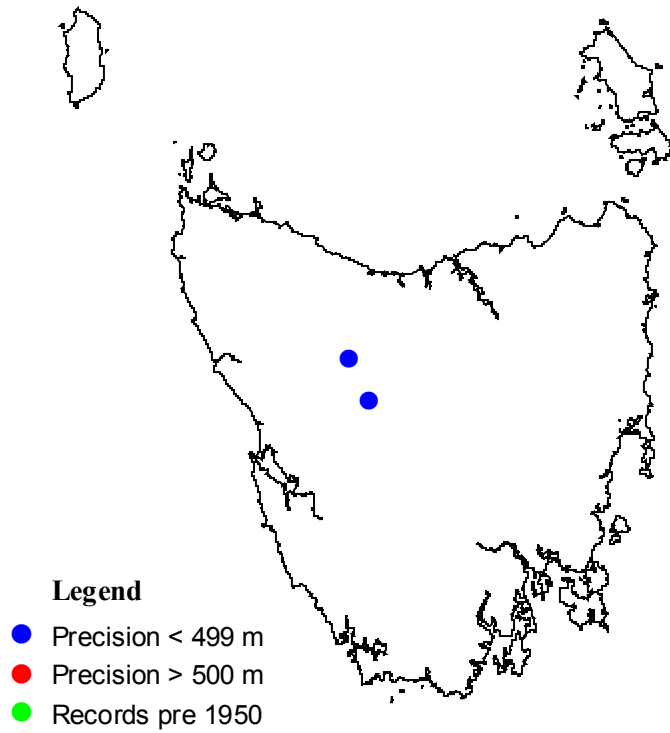
There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Milligania longifolia*.

### **Further Information**

- Cullen, P 1989, *The Distribution and Notes on the Ecology of Milligania longiflora and Oreomyrrhis gunnii*, A Report to the World Heritage Planning Team, Department of Parks, Wildlife & Heritage, Tasmania.
- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1994, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 4B, Printing Authority of Tasmania, Hobart.
- Harris, S 1992, *Milligania longifolia* in Leigh & Briggs (eds), *Threatened Australian Plants: Overviews and Case Studies*, Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service.

## Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



### 1:25 000 Map Sheets

Cathedral, Cradle.

Date last modified: 22/08/03