

Taraxacum cygnorum



Taraxacum cygnorum.
Harris *et al.* 2001

FAMILY: ASTERACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Taraxacum cygnorum*,
Hand.-Maz., *Monogr. Gatt. Taraxacum* 55 (1907)

COMMON NAME: Coast dandelion

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Vulnerable

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) not listed

Description

The species has a stout taproot and grows in rosette form (all the leaves arising from the base of the plant). **Leaves:** The leaves are between 4-12 cm long, mostly approximately 10 cm long and with lobes that are more or less rounded. The leaf stalks are usually pale. **Flowers:** The flowers are yellow and form single heads on slender, hollow stems. **Fruit:** The fruit is narrow, between 4.5-6 mm long and dark red to blackish-purple. It has spines towards the tip and are deeply wrinkled towards the base. The beak (long projection) is between 4-6 mm long. **Confusing species:** This species is distinguished from the common dandelion by the outermost set of green leaf-like structures (bracts) at the base of the flower head, which are erect and pressed to the base of the head, not curving out and down (description from Harris *et al.* 2001, Walsh & Entwistle 1994).

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland *Taraxacum cygnorum* is found in south-west Victoria and south-west Western Australia. The Tasmanian distribution is based on records from Prime Seal Island, Flinders Island and King Island in the Bass Strait. The dates of collection range between 1845 and 1947 (Harris *et al.* 2001).

Key Sites and Populations

Prime Seal Island, Flinders Island and King Island are key sites for this species.

Known Reserves

This species is not currently known from any reserve.

Ecology and Management

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

Conservation Status Assessment

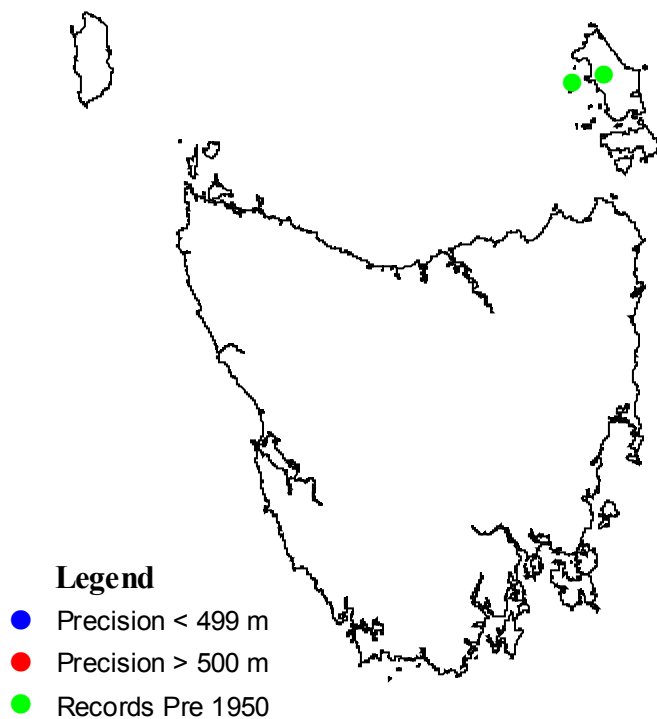
A nomination needs to be prepared for *Taraxacum cygnorum* to be listed as presumed extinct at the State level.

Further Information

- Harris, S, Buchanan, A & Connolly, A 2001, *One Hundred Islands: The Flora of the Outer Furneaux*, Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Hobart.
- Walsh, NG & Entwistle, TJ eds 1994, *Flora of Victoria*, Volume 2, Inkata Press, Melbourne.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Unit records, June 2003)



1:25 000 Map Sheets

Memana, Wybaleena.

Date last modified: 03/09/03

Note: Records for King Island are not included.