

Threatened Species Assessment

Dodonaea heteromorpha Maple-fruited Hop-bush

Description

Dodonaea heteromorpha (J.G.West).

Dodonaea heteromorpha is unusual in the genus in having both simple and compound leaves.

Dioecious, erect shrub to 3 m high; branchlets angular, ribbed to flattened, glabrous. Leaves opposite or alternate, usually simple and sessile, sometimes irregularly pinnate (then shortly petiolate) with 1–10 leaflets; simple leaves linear to linear-lanceolate, 3.5–8.3 cm long, 2–5 mm wide (leaflets, if present, 0.6–3 cm long, 2–3 mm wide), acute, margins flat to revolute, glabrous, not viscid. Flowers in axillary cymes; pedicels 3.5–10(–12.5) mm long; sepals 4, ovate, 1.5–2.3 mm long, viscid, caducous; stamens 8, c. equal in length with sepals; ovary glabrous. Capsule 4-winged, transversely oblong in outline, 5–6.5 mm long, 15–25 mm wide, glabrous, wings 6.5–10 mm wide, membranous, rarely coriaceous; seeds lenticular, 1.7–2.4 mm long, black, dull, exarillate. Flowers spring and summer. (VicFlora 2021)

Current conservation status

Categorised as 'Presumed extinct in Victoria' in the 2014 Advisory list of rare or threatened plants in Victoria (DEPI 2014).

Proposed conservation status

Extinct (EX) in Victoria.

Criteria for Extinct status

As per Schedule 1 of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Regulations 2020, the primary criterion for the category of threat 'extinct' is met if–

- (a) exhaustive surveys throughout the taxon's historic range fail to record an individual member of the taxon; and
- (b) those surveys were conducted over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form, in known or expected habitat and at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual).

Historical records of the species were retrieved from the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas. A 50km buffer was placed around each location, and all surveys of appropriate surveying method to date were retrieved. In total, 2,295 appropriate surveys have taken place within the historic range with no records of *D. heteromorpha* since 1894.

Victorian Biodiversity Atlas search results	
Number of known historical locations	2
Last known record	1894
Total recorded surveys to date within 50km of all historical locations	2,295



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Survey methods searched

External data, Monitoring, Quadrat

***External data:** Additional observation records collected by third parties, **Monitoring:** Observations recorded from surveys of bushfire hazard mapping surveys, pre-harvest surveys, indicator- or all-species assessments, etc. **Quadrat:** Square vegetation quadrats to measure vegetation attributes of an area (plant density, frequency, biomass, etc.)

Historical distribution

In Victoria, known from 2 collections made in the late 19th century from Mt Zero in the Grampians, c. 500 km south-west of the nearest extant populations in New South Wales. Extensive, unsuccessful searches for this species suggest that *Dodonaea heteromorpha* is extinct in Victoria. Also Qld, NSW. (VicFlora 2021)

References

DEPI (2014) *Advisory list of rare or threatened plants in Victoria - 2014*. Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Melbourne.

VicFlora (2021). Flora of Victoria. Flora of Victoria, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria: *Dodonaea heteromorpha*. Retrieved from: <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/flora/taxon/72769a08-c7a4-4967-8d81-a7f3d2d6bd12>