

Threatened Species Assessment

Phyllangium sulcatum Rock Mitrewort

Description

Phyllangium sulcatum (Dunlop)

Annual, erect herb to 17 cm high; branches weak, terete, glabrous. Leaves elliptic, ovate or narrowly ovate, 2–13 mm long, (1–)2–4 mm wide, glabrous or with a few hairs, margin flat, apex acute. Flowers in few-flowered umbellate clusters in upper axils; peduncles to 65 mm long; involucre 6-veined (rarely with 4 additional secondary veins), tube 3–5 mm long, lobes 1–3 mm long; corolla 2.5–3.5 mm long, lobes c. half as long as tube; styles connate. Capsules c. 2.5 mm long; seeds black, sulcate. Flowers and fruits Aug.–Nov. (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, 1,221 appropriate surveys have taken place within the historic range with no records of *P. sulcatum* since 2001.

Victorian Biodiversity Atlas search results	
Number of known historical locations	1
Last known record	2001
Total recorded surveys to date within 50km of all historical locations	1,221
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.)



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Historical distribution

Known in Victoria from the Grampians, Little Desert and Wilsons Promontory. In other states, a species of shallow soils overlaying rock. Also, WA, SA, NSW. (VicFlora 2021)

References

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

VicFlora (2018). Flora of Victoria. Flora of Victoria, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria: *Phyllangium sulcatum*. Retrieved from: <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/flora/taxon/28a6cfa2-0635-4aea-b074-3a2273480e18>