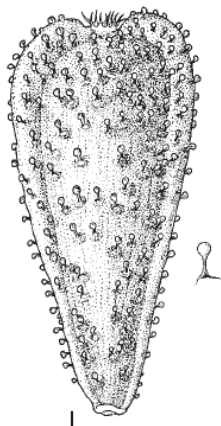


Brachyscome radicata



Achene detail (Short 2014)

FAMILY: ASTERACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Brachyscome radicata*
Hook.f., *Bot. Antarct. Voy. II. (Fl. Nov.-Zel.)*
1: 127 (1852)

COMMON NAME: spreading daisy

COMMONWEALTH STATUS (EPBC Act): Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS (TSP Act): rare

Description

Brachyscome radicata is a sparingly branched perennial herb, with weak to erect major axes, probably rhizomatous or stoloniferous. Leaves in a basal rosette and cauline, spatulate or oblanceolate, c. 15 to 85 mm long and 3 to 20 mm wide; the uppermost leaves are often entire but most have 3 to 12 lobes, and are glabrous or have a scattered to obvious cover of long-stalked glandular or eglandular hairs. Scapes up to 15 cm long at flowering and up to 23 cm at fruiting, bearing a solitary and terminal flower-head; scapes (at least the upper part) with a dense indumentum of stalked glandular hairs. Involucre c. 10 mm diameter, with 12 to 18 bracts arranged in two rows; bracts oblong, or obovate to oblanceolate, 2.7 to 5.7 mm long, 1.1 to 2.2 mm wide, with whitish or pale brown margins (at least when dry), glabrous or with a few scattered glandular and eglandular hairs basally or on their margins or midrib. Flower-heads radiate; ray florets mostly in one row, corolla c. 5 to 8 mm long, white or with pink, violet or purple flushing; disc florets with corolla tube 5-lobed, 1.5 to 2.1 mm long, yellow; stamens 5. Fruit an achene, obovate, 2.6 to 3.6 mm long, 0.85 to 1.45 mm wide, dark brown, unwinged, margins only slightly pronounced, at least the apex and margins beset with many shortly-stalked glandular hairs, with few to many on the faces; pappus a small, jagged erect to somewhat spreading crown. Flowering and fruiting specimens have been collected from November to April. (description from Curtis 1963, Webb et al. 1988, Short 2014) **Confusing species:** *Brachyscome tenuiscapa* and *Brachyscome spathulatus* are similar morphologically to *B. radicata*; *B. spathulatus* has winged achenes and its flower-head is much larger than that of *B. radicata*, while the achenes of both *B. spathulatus* and *B. tenuiscapa* lack the covering of glandular hairs that typify *B. radicata*.

Distribution and Habitat

Within Australia *Brachyscome radicata* is only known from Tasmania (de Salas & Baker 2016); the species also occurs in New Zealand (Short 2014).

In Tasmania *Brachyscome radicata* has been recorded from four locations: Mount Wellington in the south (1893, 1894 & 1913), between Cradle Mountain and Moina (1949), Mount Inglis (1983), and the southern side of Lake Ayr (1994 & 1998). Habitat includes alpine grassland and grassy woodland; plants at Mount Inglis were observed growing in ‘cliff base detritus, seepage’, while one of the collections from Mount Wellington included the note ‘subalpine’ (Short 2014). The altitude of the four known locations ranges from about 600 to 1200 metres above sea level.

Short (2014) considered naming at least the Mount Inglis material as a separate variety due to its distinctive scape vestiture, but refrained from doing so because of the considerable variability in both the Tasmanian and New Zealand collections. Further material is needed from Tasmanian sites to shed light on the variation within and between subpopulations



Figure 1. *Brachyscome radicata*: part of the collection from Mount Inglis (HO 92667; scanned image courtesy of the Tasmanian Herbarium)

Key Sites and Populations

Cradle Mountain/Middlesex Plains, Lake Ayr, Mount Inglis, Mount Wellington.

Known Reserves

Cradle Mountain-Lake St. Clair National Park and Wellington Park.

Ecology and Management

There is little information as to the species' ecological requirements in Tasmania. Surveys of known sites are required to inform management, including the relative impacts of threatening processes, the species' response to disturbance such as fire and grazing, as well as seed viability, germination, dormancy and longevity.

Conservation Status Assessment

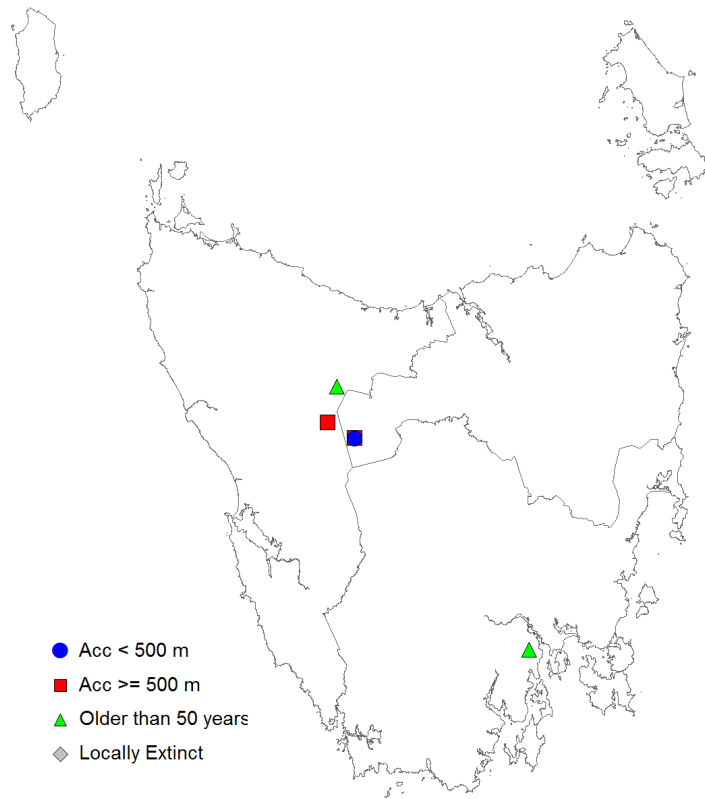
Surveys to determine the status of *Brachyscome radicata* at previously recorded sites in Tasmania — as well as surveys of potential habitat — are required before a reassessment of the species' conservation status can be undertaken.

Further Information

- Curtis, W.M. (1963). *The Student's Flora of Tasmania, Part 2*. Government Printer, Hobart.
- de Salas, M.F. & Baker, M.L. (2016). *A Census of the Vascular Plants of Tasmania, Including Macquarie Island*. (Tasmanian Herbarium, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart) www.tmag.tas.gov.au
- Short, P.S. (2014). A taxonomic review of *Brachyscome* Cass. s.lat. (Asteraceae: Astereae), including descriptions of a new genus, *Roebuckia*, new species and new infraspecific taxa. *Journal of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens* 28: 1–219.
- Webb, C.J, Sykes, W.R. & Garnock-Jones, P.J. (1988). *Flora of New Zealand. Volume IV, Naturalised pteridophytes, gymnosperms, dicotyledons*. Botany Division, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Christchurch.

Tasmanian Distribution

(As per Threatened Species Section records, June 2017)



1:25 000 Map sheets

Cathedral, Pencil Pine, Tarooma, Will.

Date last modified: 09/06/2017

Cite as:

Threatened Species Section (2017). *Notesheet for Brachyscome radicata (spreading daisy)*. Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania.

View

www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/threatenedspecieslists

Contact details

Threatened Species Section, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, GPO Box 44, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, 7001. Phone (03) 6165 4340.

Permit

It is an offence to collect, disturb, damage or destroy this species unless under permit.