



PLANT

Acacia rhetinocarpa

Resin Wattle

AUS	SA	AMLR	Endemism	Life History
V	V	E	State	Perennial

Family LEGUMINOSAE

Conservation Significance

Endemic to SA.⁵ The AMLR distribution is peripheral to the majority of the distribution in adjacent regions. Within the AMLR the species' relative area of occupancy is classified as 'Very Restricted'.³

Description

Compact, rounded, resinous spreading shrub to 2 m high with golden globular flower heads (Green 1993; Jessop and Toelken 1986; Orchard and Wilson 2001; Whibley and Symon 1992).^{1,4,5} Seed pods are linear, straight or curved (Jessop and Toelken 1986).⁵

Distribution and Population

Found in small and scattered populations near the east coast of Eyre Peninsula around Arno Bay, the east coast of Yorke Peninsula near Curramulka, the south-eastern Mount Lofty Ranges and in the Monarto area of the SA MDB (Davies 1992; Whibley 1980).^{1,5} Extent of occurrence is approximately 4976 km².⁵

A population of eight individuals is present within the Monarto conserved area and a further three populations are on private land (Davies 1992, 2000).⁵ A population is also known on Forestry SA land near Mobilong Prison and Monarto Zoo on Whites Road (K. Brewer and J. Smith *pers. comm.*).² Three populations occur in the Ferries-McDonald CP (Davies 2000) and a single population of 25 individuals in a railway reserve near Finniss (Davies 1992). A further three populations have been found in the Finniss area (Pickett and Mallen 2001). Many AMLR populations are found in road reserves (Briggs *pers. comm.*).⁵

Pre- and post-1983 AMLR filtered records from the Finniss area, with single scattered records near Strathalbyn, Bondleigh and Monarto CP.³

Habitat

In SMLR/Murray region, grows in dark grey brown sandy loams, often scattered with limestone nodules. Found on the undulating floors of large, shallow, broad depressions, and on the gentle 'W to NE' facing slopes of low broad ridges. Vegetation types include: (1) low woodland of *Eucalyptus porosa* with

a sparse open shrub stratum dominated by *Acacia rhetinocarpa* and *A. acinacea*, with an open ground strata dominated by *Lepidosperma* sp., *Stipa elegantissima* and exotic herbs; (2) tall open shrubland of *E. socialis*, *E. foecunda* and *E. dumosa* with a very sparse shrub strata dominated by *Melaleuca lanceolata*, *M. acuminata*, *Eremophila crassifolia*, *Lasiopetalum baueri*, *Olearia lepidophylla* and *Westringia eremicola*, with a very sparse ground strata dominated by *Gahnia deusta* and native grasses; (3) tall open shrubland of *Eucalyptus foecunda* and *E. incrassata* with sparse shrub strata dominated by *Melaleuca acuminata* and *M. uncinata* with a sparse ground strata dominated by *Gahnia deusta* and *Danthonia* spp. (Davies 1992).⁴

Grows in areas of average annual rainfall 250-350 mm (Whibley and Symon 1992).⁴

Within the AMLR the preferred broad vegetation groups are Mallee, Shrubland and Grassy Woodland.³

Within the AMLR the species' degree of habitat specialisation is classified as 'Moderate-Low'.³

Biology and Ecology

Flowering is mainly between August-October but may occur as late as March. Fruiting material has been collected from August to January (Davies 1992; Jessop and Toelken 1986).⁵

Aboriginal Significance

Post-1983 records indicate the majority of AMLR distribution occurs in central and northern Ngarrindjeri Nation, adjoining southern Nganguraku and Peramangk Nations.³

Threats

Current threats include inadequate knowledge of ecology and distribution, population trends, dieback (ageing) and vegetation clearance (Davies 1992).⁵ Potential threats include habitat fragmentation, weeds (e.g. Bridal Creeper), grazing and road/rail maintenance activities (Davies 1992, 2000).²

Davies (2000) suggests that due to the isolation and small size of remnant vegetation in which some populations are found, the decrease in fire frequency is affecting recruitment. Described as an early stage post-fire (or other major disturbance) successional species (Opperman 1991).⁵ Similarly, a lack of recruitment within Ferries-McDonald CP is probably

Further information:

Biodiversity Conservation Unit, Adelaide Region
Phone: (61 8) 8336 0901 Fax: (61 8) 8336 0999
<http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/>

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Prepared as part of the Regional Recovery Plan for Threatened Species and Ecological Communities of Adelaide and the Mount Lofty Ranges, South Australia 2009 - 2014



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ADELAIDE AND MOUNT LOFTY RANGES SOUTH AUSTRALIA

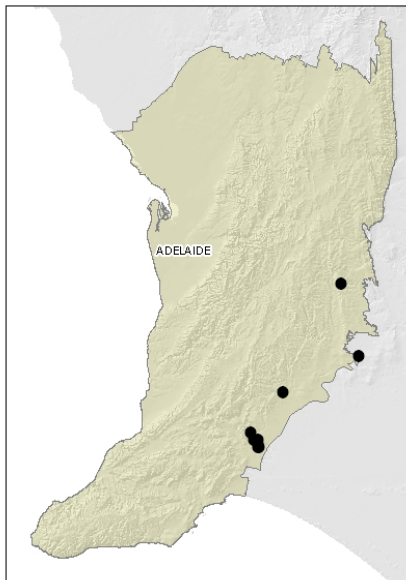
Threatened Species Profile

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due to the absence of fire, the last being prior to 1975 (Davies 1995b).⁴

Additional current direct threats have been identified and rated for this species. Refer to the main plan accompanying these profiles.

Regional Distribution



Map based on filtered post-1983 records.³ Note, this map does not necessarily represent the actual species' distribution within the AMLR.

References

Note: In some cases original reference sources are not included in this list, however they can be obtained from the reference from which the information has been sourced (the reference cited in superscript).

1 CSIRO Publishing (2005). *World wide wattle species gallery*. Available from <http://www.worldwidewattle.com> (accessed October 2007).

2 Department for Environment and Heritage. (2007). Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Regional Recovery Pilot Expert Flora Workshop, Unpublished Notes. Participants: Bickerton, D., Croft, T., Jury, T., Lang, P., Prescott, A., Quarmby, J. and Smith, K., Adelaide.

3 Department for Environment and Heritage (2007). *Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Regional Recovery Pilot Project Database*. Unpublished data extracted and edited from BDBSA, SA Herbarium (July 2007) and other sources.

4 Department of the Environment and Water Resources (2007). *Acacia rhetinocarpa in Species Profile and Threats Database*. Department of the Environment and Water Resources, Canberra. Available from <http://www.environment.gov.au/sprat> (accessed June 2007).

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