



PLANT

*Dianella longifolia* var. *grandis*

Pale Flax-lily

AUS	SA	AMLR	Endemism	Life History
-	R	V	-	Perennial

Family LILIACEAE



Photo: © Peter Lang

### Conservation Significance

The AMLR distribution is disjunct, isolated from other extant occurrences within SA. Relative to all AMLR extant species, the species' taxonomic uniqueness is classified as 'Very High'.<sup>1</sup>

### Description

Raspy leaved lily. Pale green tufting leaves in loose clump to 60 cm high. Leaves upright, flat with strong central rib. Flowers a pale china blue colour, with six petals to 7 mm. Flowers in panicle on stalk to over 1 m high, well above the leaves. Globular fruit, green when immature, blue when ripe.<sup>2</sup>

### Distribution and Population

Also occurs in QLD, NSW and VIC. In SA, occurs in FR, EP, NL, MU and SE.<sup>2</sup>

Post-1983 AMLR filtered records are scattered in the south-eastern suburbs of Adelaide, central and eastern MLR (from the Barossa, south to Inman Valley).<sup>1</sup>

Pre-1983 AMLR filtered records show additional locations at the Hope Valley Reservoir, Hahndorf, Victor Harbor and Ashbourne areas.<sup>1</sup>

### Habitat

Occurs under a variety of overstorey Eucalypt species but is a grassy woodland specialist, e.g. Blue Gum, Candlebark, Manna Gum, Stringybark and Grey Box (T. Croft *pers. comm.*).

Within the AMLR the preferred broad vegetation groups are Grassy Woodland and Grassland.<sup>1</sup>

Within the AMLR the species' degree of habitat specialisation is classified as 'High'.<sup>1</sup>

### Biology and Ecology

Flowers from September to January.<sup>4</sup>

Believed to have medicinal properties. Root extracts have demonstrated antiviral activity.<sup>3</sup>

### Aboriginal Significance

Post 1984 filtered records indicate the AMLR distribution occurs in Kurna, Ngadjuri, Peramangk and Ngarrindjeri Nations.<sup>1</sup>

Leaf fibres used, fruits eaten raw and the roots pounded and cooked on hot rocks (Fraser and McJannett 1993).

### Threats

Threats include:

- Habitat clearance
- Recreational activities
- Habitat degradation
- Weed invasion (J. Quarmby *pers. comm.* 2009.).

A large population at Kuitpo Pine Plantation is likely to be under threat from forestry activities. Translocation of plants from this site was proposed in June 2009 (J. Quarmby *pers. comm.* 2009.).

Within the AMLR, approximately half of known distribution occurs within 2 km of confirmed or suspected *Phytophthora* infestations.<sup>1</sup>

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

### 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



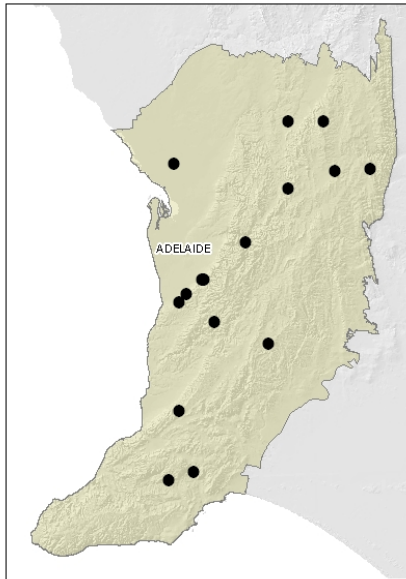


## ADELAIDE AND MOUNT LOFTY RANGES SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Threatened Species Profile

Department  
for Environment  
and Heritage

### Regional Distribution



Map based on filtered post-1983 records.<sup>1</sup> 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** 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.

**2** Department for Environment and Heritage (2007). *State Herbarium of South Australia Database*. Unpublished data, extracted October 2007.

**3** Flower, R. (2000). *Characterisation of antiviral compounds in Australian Bush Medicines A report for the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation*. Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation.

**4** Jessop, J. P. and Toelken, H. R., eds. (1986). *Flora of South Australia*. South Australian Government Printing Division, Adelaide.

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