



PLANT

Phyllanthus striaticaulis

Southern Spurge

AUS	SA	AMLR	Endemism	Life History
-	-	V	State	Perennial

Family *EUPHORBIACEAE*



Photo: © Peter Lang

Conservation Significance

Endemic to SA. The AMLR distribution is disjunct, isolated from other extant occurrences within SA. Within the AMLR the species' relative area of occupancy is classified as 'Very Restricted'. Relative to all AMLR extant species, the species' taxonomic uniqueness is classified as 'High'.⁴

Description

Small, green perennial herb to 30 cm high. Small pale green flowers drooping on short peduncles. Leaves dark green above and pale green below. Leaves oblong with recurved point and thickened edges.⁵

Distribution and Population

In SA occurs in YP and SL regions.¹ Also occurs on KI, where the type specimen is found (H. Vonow *pers. comm.*).

Post-1983 AMLR filtered records around Waitpinga, and isolated records from Mount Bold, near Mount Compass, near Middleton, Mark Oliphant CP and Mount Crawford Forest.⁴

There are no pre-1983 records.⁴

Habitat

Coastal dunes and inland places.²

In AMLR, recorded habitats include:

- Waitpinga: on sandy loam over calcrete on cliff

edge with *Gahnia deusta* and *Eucalyptus diversifolia*

- Kersbrook area, Mount Gawler North Native Forest Reserve: hill slope, loamy sand, with *Eucalyptus goniocalyx*, *E. fasciculosa* Mallee over *Xanthorrhoea semiplana* ssp. *semiplana* and *Hakea rostrata*
- Victor Harbor/Waitpinga area: *Eucalyptus fasciculosa* woodland with *Bursaria spinosa* and *Hibbertia* sp.⁵

Within the AMLR the preferred broad vegetation groups are Coastal and Heathy Woodland.⁴

Within the AMLR the species' degree of habitat specialisation is classified as 'Moderate-Low'.⁴

Biology and Ecology

Flowers from June to January.²

Likely to require disturbance for recruitment.³

Aboriginal Significance

Post-1983 records indicate the majority of the AMLR distribution occurs in southern Ngarrindjeri Nation. It is also present in Kaurna and Peramangk Nations.⁴

Threats

Threats include:

- weed invasion and competition
- off-target herbicide damage, especially roadside populations
- grazing is not an issue as it is not palatable, however trampling by animals may be an issue.³

Approximately a third of known distribution occurs within 2 km of confirmed or suspected *Phytophthora* infestations.⁴

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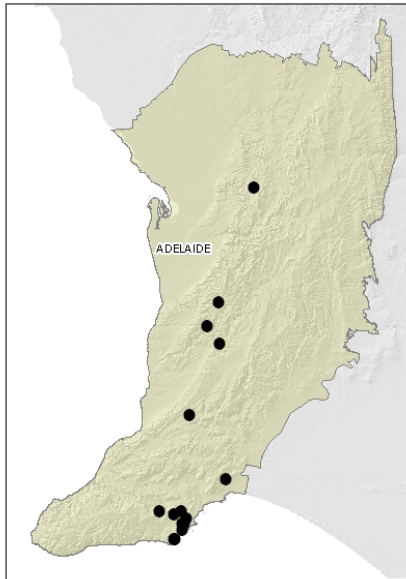
Prepared as part of the Regional Recovery Plan for Threatened Species and Ecological Communities of Adelaide and the Mount Lofty Ranges, South Australia 2009 - 2014



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Regional Distribution



Map based on filtered post-1983 records.⁴ 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 Barker, W. R., Barker, R. M., Jessop, J. P. and Vonow, H. P., eds. (2005). *Census of South Australian Vascular Plants, 5th Edition*. Botanic Gardens of Adelaide & State Herbarium, Adelaide.

2 Department for Environment and Heritage *Electronic Flora of South Australia species Fact Sheet: Phyllanthus australis* Hook. f. Available from <http://www.flora.sa.gov.au> (accessed April 2008).

3 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.

4 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.

5 Hunter, J. T. and Bruhl, J. J. (1996). Three new species of *Phyllanthus* (Euphorbiaceae: Phyllanthae) in South Australia. *Journal of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens* 17 (133).

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