



NRM Plan

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Threatened Plant Species of Southern Yorke Peninsula

Southern Yorke Peninsula

Native vegetation covers over 66,000 hectares (34%) of southern Yorke Peninsula and supports 55 plant species that are endangered, vulnerable or rare for South Australia. Of these, 10 species are co-listed by the national Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (the EPBC Act).

Southern Yorke Peninsula is rich in coastal plant diversity as indicated by Innes NP where 333 native plant species have been recorded (DEH 2003). The south-west tip of the peninsula still retains a high proportion of native vegetation cover (approximately 52%) while the remainder of the landscape is heavily cleared and farmed with about 18% native vegetation. This fact sheet focuses on three species which landholders may recognise on their property.

There are a range of coastal vegetation types and extensive areas of sub-coastal mallee dominated by Coastal White Mallee (*Eucalyptus diversifolia*).

Salt-tolerant samphire and wetland vegetation grows around saline lakes and there are remnants of Sheoak woodland, Dryland Tea-tree woodland and Mallee Box woodland. Typical plant communities found on high energy coasts are either Low Shrublands on exposed rocky cliffs or Tall Coastal Shrublands on sand dunes.

Wetlands on the tip of the peninsula are dominated by samphire shrublands or Swamp Paperbark Forest (*Melaleuca halmaturorum*). Temperate woodlands on the Yorke Peninsula are dominated by Mallee Box (*Eucalyptus porosa*), Drooping Sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*) and Dryland Tea-tree (*Melaleuca lanceolata*). Many threatened plants are associated with these ecosystems. The extensive native vegetation on the southern tip provides habitat for threatened plants but elsewhere on the Peninsula rare plant habitat occurs as isolated remnants on roads, in cemeteries and small pockets left in paddocks.

Threatened Plant Species

There are 10 plant species listed by the EPBC Act for the Southern Yorke Peninsula region:

Common name	Scientific name	AUS	SA	YP
Annual Candles	<i>Stackhousia annua</i>	V	V	V
Silver Candles	<i>Pleuropappus phyllocalymnaeus</i>	V	V	V
Silver Daisy	<i>Olearia pannosa</i> ssp. <i>pannosa</i>	V	V	V
White Beauty Spider-orchid	<i>Caladenia brumalis</i>	V	V	V
Large-club Spider-orchid	<i>Caladenia macroclavia</i>	E	E	E
Inland Green-comb Spider-orchid	<i>Caladenia tensa</i>	E	E	E
Osborne's Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia collina</i> ssp. <i>osbornii</i>	E	E	E
Bead Samphire	<i>Tecticornia flabelliformis</i>	V	V	T
Large-fruited Groundsel	<i>Senecio macrocarpus</i>	V	V	E
Lehmann's Appleberry	<i>Billardiera</i> sp. 'Yorke Peninsula'	E	E	E

Compiled by Greening Australia 2010
Photos by Darel Krahenbuhl





Annual Candles (*Stackhousia annua*)

FAMILY: STACKHOUSIACEAE

Description

Annual Candles is a small, upright herb with conspicuous, cylindrical groups of white-cream flowers at the top of the stems. The name 'candles' refers to the resemblance, from a distance, of these flower heads to candlelight in the night. The leaves are hairless, 7-25mm long and narrow near the bottom of the stem to egg-shaped near the top. Being an annual herb, Annual Candles only becomes obvious when flowering during spring.

Distribution and Habitat

Annual Candles grows in near-coastal areas of south-west Yorke Peninsula and south-east Eyre Peninsula, and is endemic to these regions. Populations on the Yorke Peninsula are known in Warrenben CP, Corny Point, Daly Head and Inneston.

The plant grows in open areas within dense mallee or shrubland, usually consisting of Coastal White Mallee (*Eucalyptus diversifolia*) with Drayland Tea-tree (*Melaleuca lanceolata*) and Drooping Sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillate*) also common.

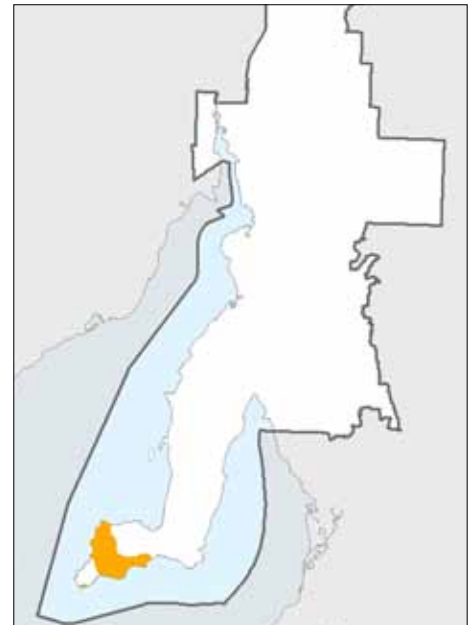
Conservation Status

Listed as **Vulnerable** by the EPBC Act. Listed as **Vulnerable** (Schedule 8) by the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (South Australia) and **Vulnerable** in the Yorke Peninsula Botanical Region.

Threats

The major threats are:

- Road maintenance activities and associated vegetation clearance and damage
- Weed invasion and habitat degradation
- Camping and recreation impacts
- Grazing
- Unsuitable fire regimes.





Silver Candles (*Pleuropappus phyllocalymmeus*)

FAMILY: COMPOSITAE

Description

Silver Candles is a small annual daisy 14–15cm high with several slender, wiry stems arising from a common base. The leaves are greyish with cobwebby hairs, narrowly egg-shaped with a tiny point, 7–12mm long. The flowers are shiny yellow in colour and occur in dense oval-shaped clusters at the end of the stems. Flowering is in Spring after which the tiny fluffy seeds are released and the plants die completely.

Distribution and Habitat

Silver Candles grows on southern Yorke Peninsula and southern and western Eyre Peninsula. On Yorke Peninsula the plant grows on the edges of saline depressions and wetland in association with samphire and other swamp vegetation, particularly in and around the Peesey Swamps between Warooka and Yorketown. There are also records from near Corny Point and Point Davenport CP (DENR database). It has been recorded in samphire shrublands on silty clay loam swamps in open plains.

Conservation Status

Nationally listed as **Vulnerable** by the EPBC Act. Listed as **Vulnerable** (Schedule 8) by the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (South Australia) and **Vulnerable** in the Yorke Peninsula Botanical Region.

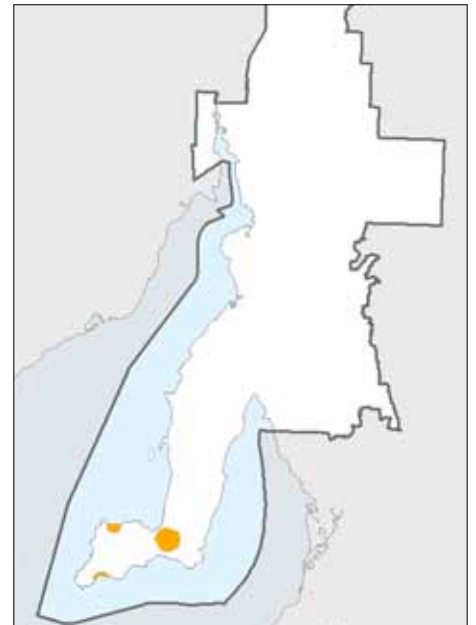
Threats

The major threats to the Silver Candles populations on Yorke Peninsula are:

- Drainage/alteration of wetland habitats including increasing salinity (high risk)
- Weed invasion from salt-tolerant grasses and shrubs such as Boxthorn
- Grazing pressure from sheep and rabbits
- Inappropriate recreation impacts (particularly off-road vehicles).

What you can do

- Notify local NRM Officers if you find or suspect a threatened species on your land.
- Control rabbits to minimise total grazing impacts.
- Exclude stock from areas with known populations of threatened species.
- Take photos rather than pick plants.





Please note: The distribution maps for threatened plants in this document are based on formal records in the State Herbarium of SA. The extent is overstated for the purposes of graphically representing the occurrence to indicate known areas where these plants are found.

Further Information

Berkinshaw, T.D. 2009, Mangroves to Mallee: The Complete Guide to the Vegetation of Temperate South Australia, Greening Australia, Adelaide South Australia

DEH 2008 Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges South Australia, Threatened Species Profile, Osborne's Eybright. Fact sheet

DEH 2003 Innes National Park Management Plan.

Jessop J.P. and Tolkein H.R. 1985 Flora of South Australia, Fourth Edition, South Australian Printing Division, SA

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species>

<http://www.flora.sa.gov.au>

Other NRM Fact Sheets

Seed Collection
Plant Identification

Help and Assistance

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Threatened Plant Action Group
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