

Threatened Species of the Northern Territory

Endiandra limnophila

Conservation status

Australia: Not listed

Northern Territory: Vulnerable



Photo: D. Liddle

Description

Endiandra limnophila is a tree to 20 m tall and 30 cm diameter at breast height, but usually smaller. Its leaves are somewhat bluish (glaucous) below, with domatia present. The flowers are pale green to cream, turning brown with age, perfumed or odourless. The fruits are black and glaucous, 28-38 x 14-15 mm.

Flowering: Dec.

Distribution

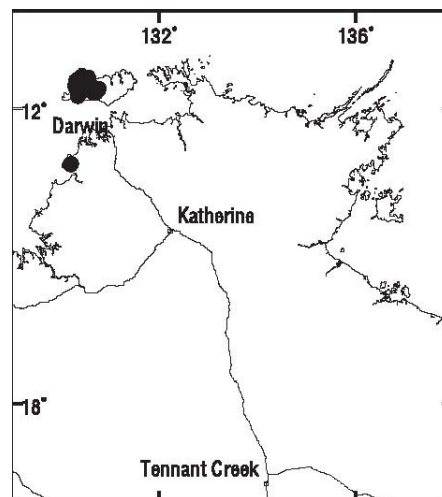
An Australian endemic, known from the far north of Cape York Peninsula and the NT. In the NT, it is known from the Tiwi Islands and Channel Point. It was recorded in the Rainforest Atlas (Liddle *et al.* 1994) at approximately 22 localities.

Conservation reserves where reported:

None

Ecology

This species grows in well-developed rainforest. It is normally found on swampy or wet situations along creek margins.



Known locations of *Endiandra limnophila*.

Conservation assessment

Although recorded from a relatively large number of sites, there have usually been no more than 5 or 6 individuals observed at any one locality.

Extensive survey of the Tiwi Islands in 2000-02 yielded no further populations of this species (Woinarski *et al.* 2003). For conservation assessment, we assume that the abundance of individuals is consistent for all localities. This species is classified as **Vulnerable** (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- an area of occupancy, although difficult to determine, estimated to be <20 km²; and

- a population size estimated at <1000 individuals

Threatening processes

A small population and restricted distribution makes this species susceptible to stochastic events. Known localities on Bathurst Island have high pig populations that may affect recruitment. Only being known from very wet, peat-like rainforests, this species would easily be affected by changes in hydrology. However, such changes are not anticipated.

Conservation objectives and management

A Recovery Plan for this species, and other threatened plants on the Tiwi Islands, is due to be released in 2007, but many actions in its draft are currently being implemented.

Research is required to establish the status of this population, the extent of its distribution and the impact of feral animals. Fencing is not practical for these areas. A monitoring program should be established for at least some populations.

Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan
Ian Cowie
[April 2006]

References

- Hyland, B.P.M., and Whiffin, T. (1993). *Australian Tropical Rain Forest Trees*. An interactive system Volume 2. (CSIRO Publications, Melbourne.)
- Liddle, D.T., Russell-Smith, J., Brock, J., Leach, G.J., and Connors, G.T. (1994). *Atlas of the vascular rainforest plants of the Northern Territory*. Flora of Australia Supplementary Series No. 3, (Australian Biological Resources Study, Canberra.)

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Cowie, I., Kerrigan, R., and Hempel, C. (2003). *Biodiversity conservation on the Tiwi islands, Northern Territory. Part 1. Plants and environments*. 144 pp. (Department of Infrastructure Planning and Environment, Darwin.)