

Threatened Species of the Northern Territory

Tarennoidea wallichii

Conservation status

Australia: Not listed

Northern Territory: Endangered



Photo: K. Brennan

Description

Tarennoidea wallichii is a small tree to 5 m, with grey bark, smooth throughout.

Its leaves are opposite with interpetiolar stipules, dark green, glossy. The domatia have fringing hairs. The flowers are white.

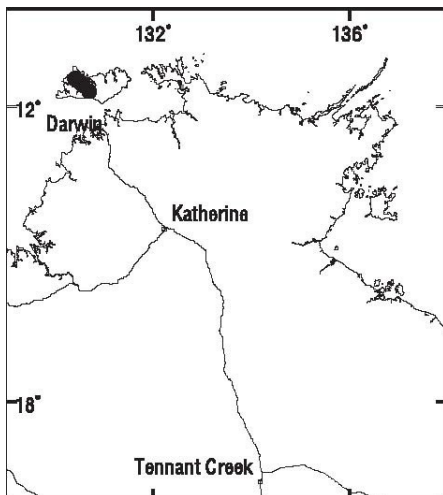
Flowering: Oct.

Fruiting: Jul, Oct.

Distribution

This species is widespread in Malesia, extending at least as far as India. In the Northern Territory it is known only from a small set of monsoon rainforests on Melville Island.

Conservation reserves where reported:
None.



Known locations of *Tarennoidea wallichii*.

Ecology

It occurs in drier parts of complex evergreen monsoon rainforests.

Conservation assessment

In the NT, this species is known from 13 records at a small number of sites on Melville Island (Fensham and Woinarski 1992; Liddle *et al.* 1994; Woinarski *et al.* 2003), with collections from only three separate locations there. Across the NT, its preferred habitat has been well sampled (Russell-Smith 1991), and the Tiwi Islands have also been comparatively well sampled (Woinarski *et al.* 2003), so this restriction is probably real.

This species qualifies as **Endangered** (under criteria D) based on a population size estimated to be <250 individuals.

Threatening processes

The small population size makes this species susceptible to stochastic events such as cyclones and fire. The maintenance of this species depends upon the retention of the Tiwi rainforest network and control of the impact of feral animals in this environment, and moderation of the impacts of fire and intensive development in surrounding habitats.

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 into the status of the population is required. Collection of propagation material and translocation to botanic gardens would assist in protecting this species from cyclonic events. A monitoring program should be established for at least representative populations.

Compiled by

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References

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- 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.)