



PLANT

Callistemon teretifolius

Needle Bottlebrush

AUS	SA	AMLR	Endemism	Life History
-	-	V	State	Perennial

Family MYRTACEAE



Photo: © Tony Robinson

Conservation Significance

Endemic to SA. The AMLR distribution is part of a limited extant distribution in adjacent regions within SA. Within the AMLR the species' relative area of occupancy is classified as 'Extremely Restricted'. Relative to all AMLR extant species, the species' taxonomic uniqueness is classified as 'High'.⁴

Description

Medium size shrub. Leaves needle-like, sharp pointed. Flower parts bright red with purple tips. Branches and leaves rigid, bark fissured. Fruit smooth.^{3,6}

Distribution and Population

Occurs in FR, EA, EP, NL, MU and SL regions. Known predominantly from the Flinders Ranges.³

Recorded from Warren CP, Warren SA Water Reserve, Spring Gully CP and Hale CP.⁵ Other populations of limited individuals are known from Rockleigh (a few roadside plants) and private property near Keyneton (K. Brewer and J. Smith *pers. comm.*).

Post-1983 AMLR filtered records indicate the most significant population occurs between Williamstown and Mount Crawford, and single records exist north of Eden Valley and west of Parra Wirra RP.⁴

Pre-1983 AMLR filtered records indicate a similar distribution, with additional records at Keyneton and near Monarto.⁴

Habitat

Grows on rocky hillsides and slopes, and near creeklines.⁶

Within the AMLR recorded from *Eucalyptus gonicalyx*, *E. fasciculosa* +/- *E. obliqua* Low Woodland over *Acacia pycnantha*, *Xanthorrhoea semiplana* and *Hakea rostrata*, on a variety of soils, with clay loams and sandy loams most common. This vegetation group occurs in Warren CP, Para Wirra CP, Hale CP, South Para Reservoir, and Mount Crawford Forest.¹ At Warren CP occurs in rocky areas along creeks, with *Bursaria spinosa*, *Acacia paradoxa*, *Prostanthera behriana* and *Myoporum viscosum*.⁵

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

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

Biology and Ecology

Flowers between October and December.³

Aboriginal Significance

Post-1983 records indicate the entire AMLR distribution occurs in northern Peramangk Nation (towards southern Ngadjuri Nation and north-eastern Kaurna Nation).

Callistemon sp. are recorded as a traditional food source for Aboriginal people in the eastern states. Flowers were sucked for nectar (Flood 1980).²

Threats

Threats include inadequate recruitment, weed invasions (e.g. Perennial Veldt grass) and livestock grazing (sub-population in an *E. odorata* woodland is being grazed by goats) (K. Brewer and J. Smith *pers. comm.*).

Further information:

Biodiversity Conservation Unit, Adelaide Region
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<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

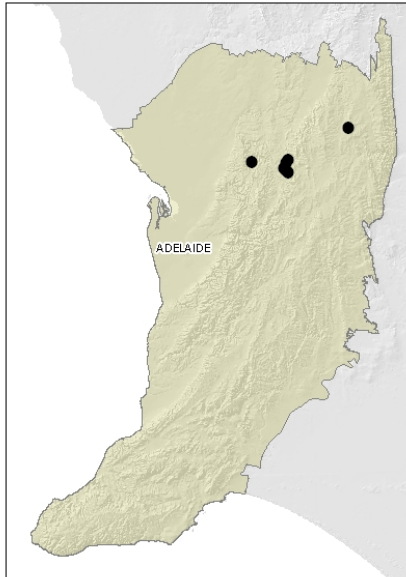
Threatened Species Profile

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and Heritage

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

6 Prescott, A. (1988). *It's Blue with Five Petals*. Ann Prescott, Adelaide, South Australia.

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 Armstrong, D. M., Croft, S. N. and Foulkes, J. N. (2003). *A Biological Survey of the Southern Mount Lofty Ranges, South Australia, 2000-2001*. Department for Environment and Heritage, South Australia.

2 Australian National Botanic Gardens (2007). *Aboriginal Plant Use - NSW Southern Tablelands*. Available from <http://www.anbg.gov.au/apu/index.html> (accessed August 2007).

3 Department for Environment and Heritage *Electronic Flora of South Australia species Fact Sheet: Callistemon teretifolius F. Muell.* Available from <http://www.flora.sa.gov.au> (accessed August 2007).

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

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