**Acacia rhetinocarpa**

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<th>FAMILY</th>
<th>LEGUMINOSAE</th>
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**Conservation Significance**
Endemic to SA. The AMLR distribution is peripheral to the majority of the distribution in adjacent regions. Within the AMLR the species' relative area of occupancy is classified as 'Very Restricted'.

**Description**
Compact, rounded, resinous spreading shrub to 2 m high with golden globular flower heads (Green 1993; Jessop and Toelken 1986; Orchard and Wilson 2001; Whibley and Symon 1992). Seed pods are linear, straight or curved (Jessop and Toelken 1986). Seed pods are linear, straight or curved (Jessop and Toelken 1986).

**Distribution and Population**
Found in small and scattered populations near the east coast of Eyre Peninsula around Arno Bay, the east coast of Yorke Peninsula near Curramulka, the south-eastern Mount Lofty Ranges and in the Monarto area of the SA MDB (Davies 1992; Whibley 1980). Extent of occurrence is approximately 4976 km².

A population of eight individuals is present within the Monarto conserved area and a further three populations are on private land (Davies 1992, 2000). Three populations occur in the Ferries-McDonald CP (Davies 2000) and a single population of 25 individuals in a railway reserve near Finniss (Davies 1992). A further three populations have been found in the Finniss area (Pickett and Mallen 2001). Many AMLR populations are found in road reserves (Briggs pers. comm.).

Pre- and post-1983 AMLR filtered records from the Finniss area, with single scattered records near Strathalbyn, B Dongleigh and Monarto CP.

**Habitat**
In SMLR/Murray region, grows in dark grey brown sandy loams, often scattered with limestone nodules. Found on the undulating floors of large, shallow, broad depressions, and on the gentle 'W to NE' facing slopes of low broad ridges. Vegetation types include: (1) low woodland of Eucalyptus porosa with a sparse open shrub stratum dominated by Acacia rhetinocarpa and A. acinacea, with an open ground strata dominated by Lepidosperma sp., Stipa elegansissima and exotic herbs; (2) tall open shrubland of E. socialis, E. foecunda and E. dumosa with a very sparse shrub strata dominated by Melaleuca lanceolata, M. acuminata, Eremophila crassifolia, Lasiorhynchus baueri, Oleaef jepidophylla and Westringia eremicola, with a very sparse ground strata dominated by Gahnia deusta and native grasses; (3) tall open shrubland of Eucalyptus foecunda and E. incrassata with sparse shrub strata dominated by Melaleuca acuminata and M. uncinata with a sparse ground strata dominated by Gahnia deusta and Danthonia spp. (Davies 1992).

Grows in areas of average annual rainfall 250-350 mm (Whibley and Symon 1992).

Within the AMLR the preferred broad vegetation groups are Mallee, Shrubland and Grassy Woodland.

**Biology and Ecology**
Flowering is mainly between August-October but may occur as late as March. Fruiting material has been collected from August to January (Davies 1992; Jessop and Toelken 1986).

**Aboriginal Significance**
Post-1983 records indicate the majority of AMLR distribution occurs in central and northern Ngarrindjeri Nation, adjoining southern Nganguraku and Peramangk Nations.

**Threats**
Current threats include inadequate knowledge of ecology and distribution, population trends, dieback (ageing) and vegetation clearance (Davies 1992). Potential threats include habitat fragmentation, weeds (e.g. Bridal Creeper), grazing and road/rail maintenance activities (Davies 1992, 2000).

Davies (2000) suggests that due to the isolation and small size of remnant vegetation in which some populations are found, the decrease in fire frequency is affecting recruitment. Described as an early stage post-fire (or other major disturbance) successional species (Opperman 1991). Similarly, a lack of recruitment within Ferries-McDonald CP is probably...
due to the absence of fire, the last being prior to 1975 (Davies 1995b).

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

**Regional Distribution**

Map based on filtered post-1983 records. 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).


Further information:
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