Pterostylis sp. Hale (R. Bates 21725)

Hale Greenhood

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'.

There are taxonomic issues with this species. Was initially thought only to occur in Hale CP, but a very similar unnamed species occurring in mallee is now considered to be the same species (R. Bates pers. comm.). Thus it was de-listed from the NPW Act as it is not considered a distinct taxon; refer to Pterostylis aff. nana.

Description
Small greenhood orchid; three to six leaves, 14 mm long, small, blue-green or grey, heavily veined and ground hugging. Flower stem short, to 10 cm, slender. Flower single, green and brown. Hood erect, green with rusty red tints especially as the flowers age, to 15 mm high.


Distribution and Population
In SA occurs in EP, SL and MU regions, and possibly NL region. Patchy distribution across the southern agricultural regions of SA. May be more common in the Mallee.

Single post-1983 AMLR filtered record from Hale CP in the Barossa Ranges.

There are no pre-1983 records.

Attempts to locate plants in 2008 at a previously reported location failed to detect this species (J. Quarmby pers. comm. 2009). There was evidence of plant dieback caused by a disease other than Phytophora sp. in the area (J. Quarmby pers. comm. 2009).

Habitat
Occurs on shallow gravels on ridge tops in Eucalyptus goniocaryx/Caillitis gracilis woodland. Grows in a small pocket of moss in rocks at Hale CP (R. Bates pers. comm.).

Within the AMLR the preferred broad vegetation group is Heathy woodland.

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

Biology and Ecology
Flowers from August to September. Usually occurs as small, discrete, clonal colonies.

Aboriginal Significance
Post-1983 records indicate the entire AMLR distribution occurs in northern Peramangk Nation.

Species of Orchidaceae are recorded as being a traditional food source for Aboriginal people in NSW. The small tubers were roasted (Flood 1980).

Threats
Although small, the AMLR population is reasonably secure. However, inadvertent bush-walking in areas where it occurs could be a threat. Drought and climate change could potentially affect this species (R. Bates pers. comm.).

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 AMUR.

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).


