

Threatened Flora on Kangaroo Island **Vulnerable**

Ironstone Mulla Mulla *Ptilotus beckerianus*

What does it look like?

- Ironstone Mulla Mulla grows about 10 to 25 cm tall.
- It has fluffy flowers that are pinkish or amber to golden yellow.
- It has simple ribbed flower stems.
- The leaves are located at the base at ground level and come in a range of shapes from oval to narrow.
- Smaller leaves also occur along the flower stem.

How do they live?

- Ironstone Mulla Mulla is perennial and generally dies back in autumn or winter.
- It is active in spring and flowers are seen between September and January.
- The plants are found mainly in Coastal White Mallee *Eucalyptus diversifolia* open shrubland.
- On Kangaroo Island it is only found on the slopes of low broad ridges where it occurs in a variety of soils.

Conservation rating

Ironstone Mulla Mulla is rated as **VULNERABLE** under national and state legislation. It is rated as vulnerable on Kangaroo Island.



Where does it occur?

Ironstone Mulla Mulla is **ENDEMIC** to South Australia. It is found on southern Eyre Peninsula and on Kangaroo Island. On Kangaroo Island it occurs in the central and southern areas mainly along roadsides.

Where is it conserved on Kangaroo Island?

It is conserved in Flinders Chase National Park along the West End Highway, although only a few individuals actually occur within the Park boundary. It is also found in Kelly Hill Conservation Park extending into the roadside vegetation.



Photo: Di Ancell

Threats



Small
Population
Size



Habitat
fragmentation



Road
works

Further reading

Davies, R.J.P. (1996) *Threatened plant species on roadsides: Kangaroo Island, South Australia*. Resource Management Branch, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Davies, R.J.P. (1992) *Threatened plant species of the Murray mallee, Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island Regions of South Australia*. Conservation Council, South Australia.

Davies, R.J.P. (1986) *Threatened plant species of Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island Regions*. Conservation Council, South Australia.



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