# BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ON THE TIWI ISLANDS, NORTHERN TERRITORY:

Part 1. Environments and plants











#### **SUMMARY**

The Tiwi Islands comprise two of Australia's largest offshore islands - Bathurst (with an area of 1693 km²) and Melville (5788 km²) Islands. These are Aboriginal lands lying about 20 km to the north of Darwin, Northern Territory. The islands are of generally low relief with relatively simple geological patterning. They have the highest rainfall in the Northern Territory (to about 2000 mm annual average rainfall in the far north-west of Melville and north of Bathurst). The human population of about 2000 people lives mainly in the three towns of Nguiu, Milakapati and Pirlangimpi.

Tall forests dominated by *Eucalyptus miniata*, *E. tetrodonta*, and *Corymbia nesophila* cover about 75% of the island area. These include the best developed eucalypt forests in the Northern Territory. The Tiwi Islands also include nearly 1300 rainforest patches, with floristic composition in many of these patches distinct from that of the Northern Territory mainland. Although the total extent of rainforest on the Tiwi Islands is small (around 160 km²), at an NT level this makes up an unusually high proportion of the landscape and comprises between 6 and 15% of the total NT rainforest extent. The Tiwi Islands also include nearly 200 km² of "treeless plains", a vegetation type largely restricted to these islands. Other main vegetation types present on these islands include eucalypt woodlands (95 km²: dominated principally by *Eucalyptus oligantha*); sedgelands, grasslands, and paperbark (*Melaleuca*) forests and woodlands (total area of 250 km²); mangroves, coastal dunes and saltmarsh (total area of 920 km²). Most vegetation is relatively extensive and intact, with a relatively small area of modifications associated with township areas (26 km²), but an increasing extent of forestry plantation (81 km²).

There are no formal conservation reserves on the Tiwi Islands, but some of the main environments are included within the large Garig Gunak Barlu (formerly Gurig) National Park, on Cobourg Peninsula of the nearby mainland. The similarity in the environments of the Tiwi Islands and Cobourg Peninsula is recognised in the inclusion together of these two areas into one (the "Tiwi-Cobourg" bioregion) of 85 nationally defined bioregions. However, not all environments present on the Tiwi Islands occur on Cobourg Peninsula, so some Tiwi environments are represented in no conservation reserves.

Based on collation of a range of different data bases, we list 1068 native and 127 exotic plant species from these islands. However, most of these exotics occur principally in townships, and relatively few are present in undsiturbed bushland. The total species list is probably still far from comprehensive.

The Tiwi flora includes an unusually high number and proportion of listed threatened plant species: 20 species are regarded as Endangered or Vulnerable, and a further 44 species are regarded as Data Deficient. Detailed information is provided for every threatened plant species. Most of the threatened species are associated with rainforest, but threatened species are present in most habitats. The threatened species occur mainly in the north-west of Melville Island and the north of Bathurst Island, although this patterning may be somewhat influenced by uneven sampling effort. Only three of the 20 threatened plant species are known from any conservation reserves in the Northern Territory. The main factors affecting (or likely to affect) the listed

threatened plants are feral animals (principally pigs), changed hydrological regimes, and stochastic (chance) factors; but other threats include changed fire regimes, weeds, collecting, and clearing.

Eleven plant taxa are entirely endemic (restricted) to the Tiwi Islands, again an unusually high number and proportion. A further 19 taxa occur in the Northern Territory only on the Tiwi Islands, but also occur beyond the Northern Territory, typically in north-eastern Queensland, New Guinea and or Malesia. Again, most of these endemic species are associated with rainforest, but some endemic species also occur in most other habitats.

Consistent with its smaller land size, Bathurst Island has somewhat fewer total plant species, and numbers of threatened and Tiwi-endemic species. The plant species composition of the two islands is very similar.

At least 200 native plants are known to be used traditionally by Tiwi people for foods and construction material. Most of these plants are associated with rainforest and eucalypt open forests, but there are many utilised plants in all main habitats.

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Purpose of this report

This report presents an assessment of the terrestrial environments and flora of the Tiwi Islands, based on an intensive field survey and collation of previous documentation. It forms one part of a three part report, complemented by related sections on fauna and a section for synthesis and management.

This report builds from a previous and related assessment (Woinarski *et al.* 2000*a*) of the conservation values of the Tiwi Islands, and the extent to which these may be affected by a major forestry development proposal. A detailed description and mapping of Tiwi environments is currrently in preparation (Hollingsworth 2003), so this report concentrates mostly on the occurrence of plant species, supplemented by a brief description of broad Tiwi environments.

#### 1.2. Brief description of the Tiwi Islands

The Tiwi Islands comprise Melville Island (with a land area of 5788km<sup>2</sup> – Australia's largest island other than Tasmania) and the abutting Bathurst Island (1693km<sup>2</sup> - Australia's fifth largest island), plus a few scattered much smaller islands close to these two large islands.

The islands lie just to the north of Darwin (Fig. 1.1), separated from the Northern Territory mainland by 20 km of the narrow Clarence Strait (between Beagle Gulf to the west and van Diemen Gulf to the east), in which lie the small Vernon Islands group. Clarence Strait and the Beagle Gulf are relatively shallow, such that a sea level fall of 30m would result in connection of the Tiwi Islands to the mainland.

The current isolation of the Tiwi Islands results from rapid sea level rise between about 12,000 and 8,000 years ago (Woodroffe et al. 1992), which split Melville from Bathurst along the very narrow (typically <500m) Apsley Strait and sundered both from the mainland. This was the most recent of a series of fluctuating isolation and connection cycles for the Tiwi Islands associated with the marked sea level changes over the course of the Pleistocene.

The Tiwi Islands are relatively low (highest point 102m) and topographically simple (Fig. 1.2). A series of moderately large creeks drain northward on Melville Island, and there is a small floodplain on Andranangoo Creek.

Both islands comprise a central plateau, mostly composed of Tertiary laterite and van Diemen sandstone, and Cretaceous sandstones, surrounded by more recent depositional material. Geological patterning is relatively simple (Fig. 1.3), with deep red and yellow sandy soils over most of the island extent. More detailed information on Tiwi Islands geology, geomorphology

and soils is given in Hughes (1976), Plumb (1977), Anon (1998), ForSci (1999) and Hollingsworth (2003).

The Tiwi Islands have the Territory's highest rainfall (to about 2000 mm annual average rainfall in the north of Bathurst Island and north-west of Melville Island: Fig. 1.4), with about 90% of this falling in a 5 month wet season (November to April). Temperatures are high year-round, with monthly minimum and maximum temperatures ranging from 25 to 36°C in October to 19 to 29°C in July (Plumb 1977). Tiwi people recognise three main seasons: **Kumunupunari**, the dry season; **Tiyari**, the build-up season; and **Jamutakari**, the wet season (Puruntatameri *et al.* 2001).

The islands support a population of around 1700 to 2000 (overwhelmingly comprising the traditional Aboriginal owners, the Tiwi people), mostly in the towns of Nguiu and Wurankuwu on Bathurst Island and Milikapiti (formerly Snake Bay) and Pirlangimpi (also known as Pularumpi and Garden Point) on Melville Island, with smaller scattered settlements and outstations. The entire area is Aboriginal freehold lands (held under the Tiwi Aboriginal Land Trust). The track network is best developed on Bathurst Island and the west of Melville Island: much of the eastern half of Melville Island is inaccessible by road. More detailed information on the history and people of the Tiwi Islands is given in Forrest (1998).

#### 1.3. Conventions used in this report

Plant nomenclature used in this report follows Anon (2003). Where other nomenclature has been used in previous references (most notably in the Northern Territory vegetation classification of Wilson *et al.* (1990)), we have attempted to cross-reference older names with their current ascriptions. This is particularly the case for the eucalypt bloodwoods, which were included within the genus *Eucalyptus* until recent revisions placed them within the genus *Corymbia*. On the Tiwi islands, the most important such species is the Melville Island Bloodwood *Corymbia nesophila*.

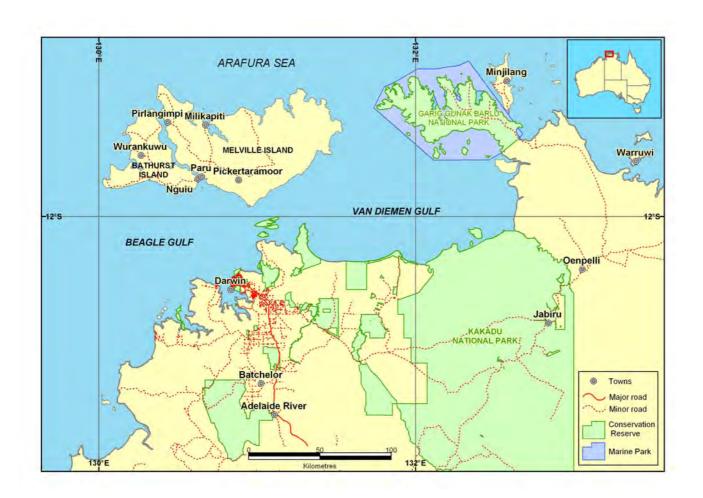


Figure 1.1. General location of the Tiwi Islands, and location of communities and main track networks



Figure 1.2 (a). Topographic relief (measure of the altitudinal variation) on the Tiwi Islands.

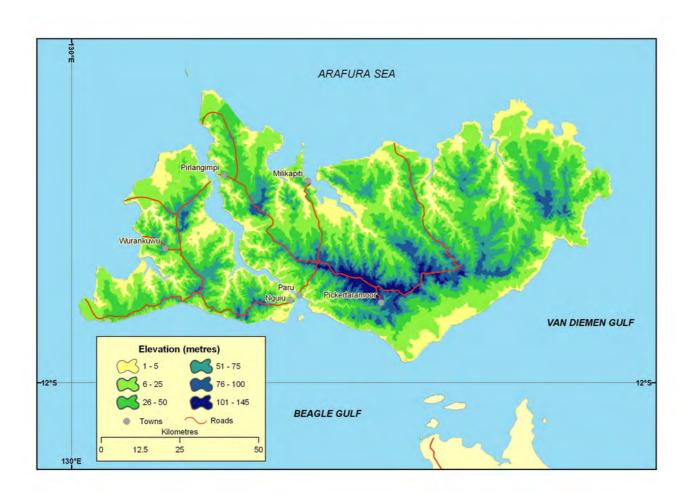


Figure 1.2 (b). Elevation on the Tiwi Islands.

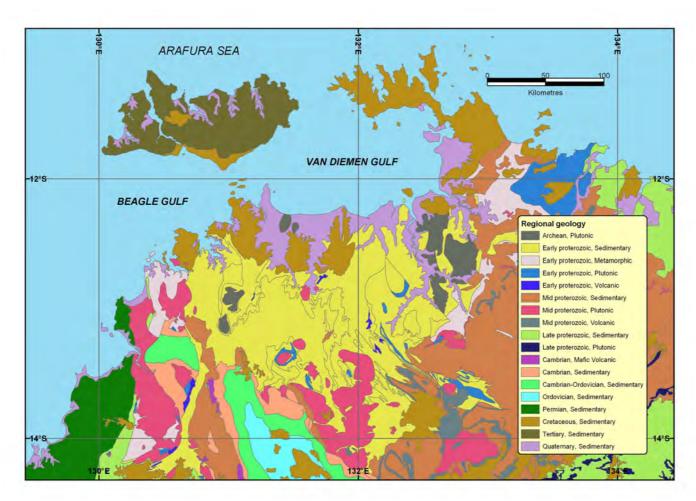


Fig. 1.3 (a). Geology of the Tiwi Islands and surrounding regions (from Ahmad 2000), indicating the relative simplicity of Tiwi geological patterning, and its similarity with Cobourg Peninsula.

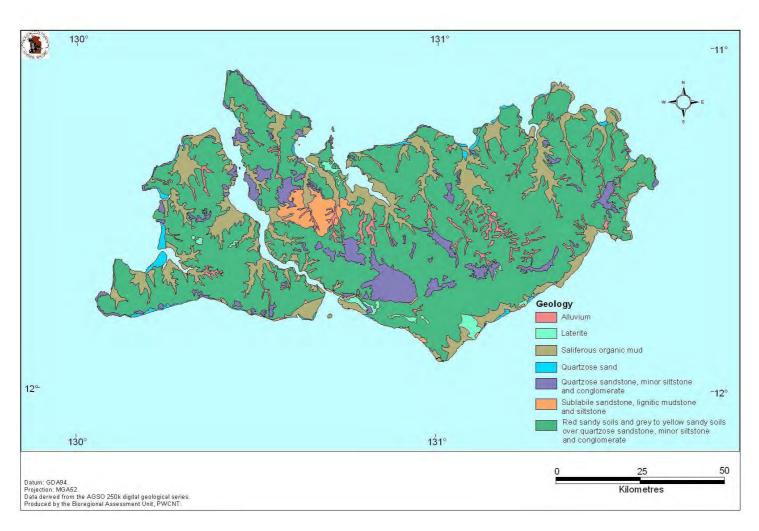


Figure 1.3 (b). Finer-resolution surficial geology of the Tiwi Islands.

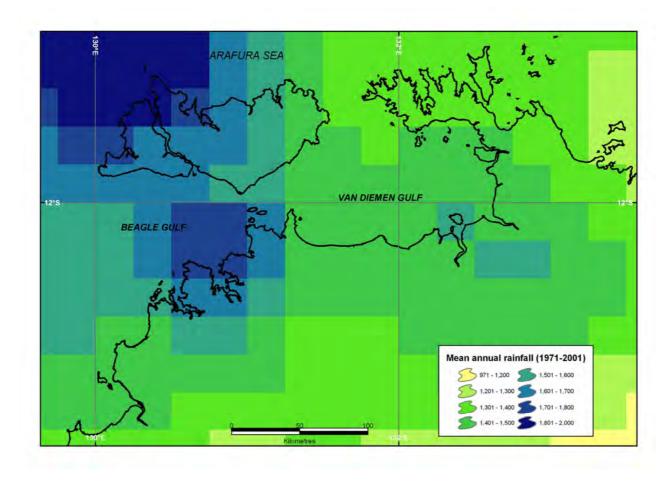


Figure 1.4. Mean annual rainfall on the Tiwi Islands and adjacent areas of the Top End of the Northern Territory.

### 2. TIWI ISLANDS ENVIRONMENTS AND VEGETATION TYPES

#### 2.1. Biogeographic and conservation context

By virtue of their isolation, in having the Territory's highest rainfall, and in being at the northern extreme of the Territory, the Tiwi Islands support a distinctive biota, including a number of endemic species and subspecies of plants and animals. This places a conservation focus and onus on the Tiwi Islands, as axiomatically these taxa cannot be maintained in the wild anywhere but on the Tiwi Islands.

The distinctiveness of the Tiwi Islands is relative, and many of the Tiwi species and environments are shared with the Territory mainland, most notably with Cobourg Peninsula to the immediate east (Brocklehurst and Edmeades 1998). This is reflected in the national recognition of a "Tiwi-Cobourg" bioregion comprising the Tiwi Islands, Cobourg Peninsula and Croker Island (Woinarski and Baker 2002).

Table 2.1. The occurrence of coarsely-defined vegetation types on the Tiwi Islands, and their representation within Northern Territory reserves (based on the 1:1 000 000 vegetation mapping of Wilson *et al.* 1990).

vegetation type	area (km²)			% area
	on the Tiwi Islands	in Garig	in the	reserved
	(% of total NT	Gunak	Northern	
	distribution)	Barlu	Territory	
		National		
		Park		
1. mixed-species closed forest (monsoon	36 (14.0%)	-	258	6.2
vine-thicket)				
3. Eucalyptus miniata- E. tetrodonta – E. nesophila	6100 (71.4%)	1894	8546	22.1
(=Corymbia nesophila) open forest with Sorghum				
grassland understorey				
18. Eucalyptus papuana (=Corymbia bella) – E.	229 (9.4%)	-	2435	1.3
polycarpa (=C. polycarpa) woodland with				
grassland understorey				
47. Acacia open shrubland with Sorghum	191 (100%)	-	192	0
grassland understorey ("treeless plains")				
53. Melaleuca open forest (paperbark swamp)	50 (3.1%)	-	1590	27.3
105. Mangal low closed-forest (mangroves)	598 (41.5%)	97	1440	8.1
106. saline tidal flats with scattered chenopod	146 (1.9%)	39	7815	15.2
low open shrubland (samphire)				

Because Cobourg Peninsula includes the large Garig Gunak Barlu (formerly Gurig) National Park, the Tiwi-Cobourg bioregion is among the most substantially reserved of all Territory bioregions: 20.5% of the bioregional area is within national park. Environmental representation of this reservation can be considered using the NT-wide vegetation map (Wilson *et al.* 1990). At the scale of this mapping (1:1,000,000) several of the broadly-defined

vegetation types that occur on the Tiwi Islands can be broadly considered to be represented within conservation reserves (elsewhere)(Table 2.1; Fig. 2.1).

But even at this coarse scale, one Tiwi vegetation type (unit 47: the "treeless plains") is endemic, and cannot be protected other than on the Tiwi Islands. This assessment of representation elsewhere also suggests that, on a Territory-wide scale, the current reservation level of unit 18 (Eucalyptus papuana (=Corymbia bella) - E. polycarpa (=C. polycarpa) woodland) is meagre.

However the 1:1,000,000 scale of this vegetation mapping obscures much of the variability within vegetation types, and is far less detailed than that accepted (1:250,000 or 1:100,000) as appropriate for bioregional conservation planning (Environment Australia 1998). Finer-scale vegetation maps for the Tiwi Islands have recently been compiled or are in the process of compilation.

The Tiwi landscapes offer some challenges for vegetation classification, because environmental variation on the Tiwi islands is mostly gradational. With a few obvious exceptions there are no major contrasts and abrupt discontinuities in the Tiwi landscapes. Certainly, mangroves and monsoon rainforest patches are markedly distinct: but most of the rest of the Islands area comprises subtle variations on a dominant theme of eucalypt open forests, among which spatial changes in structural characteristics may be determined more by recent patterns of fire than by underlying edaphic differences. Differences in dominant tree species composition may not match well differences in understorey composition or amount (Fensham and Kirkpatrick 1992; Fensham and Bowman 1992; Wilson and Fensham 1994), and floristic variation may correspond very poorly with demarcation of land units (Wilson and Fensham 1994).

One exception to the subtle variations within most Tiwi environments is rainforest, which generally forms a spatially distinctive patchwork, readily identified by imagery. Rainforests occurring in the Top End of the Northern Territory were mapped from aerial photography (at scales between 1: 15,000 and 1: 80,000), by Russell-Smith and Lucas (in Russell-Smith *et al.* 1992). Mapped rainforests were broadly categorised into "wet" (generally spring-based or riparian) and "dry" (in coastal areas or in other sites topographically protected from fires). The coverage is illustrated in Fig. 2.2.

A 1:100,000 scale GIS-based coverage of *Melaleuca*—dominated vegetation was developed by Brocklehurst and Lynch (*unpubl.*), derived mainly from interpretation of aerial photography. This coverage is also illustrated in Fig. 2.2.

Hard-copy land unit maps of relatively small parts of western Melville Island were developed by van Cuylenburg and Dunlop (1973) and Wells and van Cuylenburg (1978) at scales ranging from 1:16,000 to 1:50,000, and a coarser-scale (1:100,000) map of land systems for the western half of Melville Island was produced by Wells *et al.* (1978).

Brocklehurst (1998) collated many of the above coverages into a composite 1:250,000 map of "generalised vegetation types" for the Tiwi Islands.

Woinarski et al. (2000a) derived a map of vegetation communities from interpretation of LANDSAT imagery complemented by an intensive field sampling study (see Section 3 of this

report). That map is illustrated in Fig. 2.3, and the extent of its major groups described in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2. Vegetation types on the Tiwi Islands, and their relative extent.

class	description	area (km²)		
	-	Bathurst	Melville	total
wet rainforest	floristically diverse tall closed forests around springs	4.4	21.7	26.1
	and some sheltered watercourses.			
dry rainforest	coastal thickets and dry slopes of broken plateau edge	29.7	102.8	132.5
mangroves	tall dense forests to low open woodlands in tidally inundated coastal areas, with a range of dominant species including Sonneratia alba, Rhizophora stylosa, Bruguiera parviflora, Xylocarpus mekongensis and Ceriops tagal.	275.6	515.8	791.4
sand & salt flats	typically saline coastal areas intermixed with mangals, and supporting no vegetation, coastal dunefields, or grasslands dominated by <i>Sporobolus virginicus</i> .	14.8	115.5	130.3
sedgelands & grasslands	mostly seasonally indundated areas, typically dominated by <i>Eleocharis duleis</i> and <i>Scirpus litoralis</i> .	13.2	159.7	172.9
Melaleuca open forests	forests dominated by a range of <i>Melaleuca</i> spp. (typically including <i>M. leucadendra</i> and <i>M. viridiflora</i> ) in riparian areas and swamplands	13.7	47.1	60.8
Melaleuca low woodlands	low woodlands or shrublands typically on poorly drained sites, dominated by <i>M. nervosa</i> and/or <i>M. viridiflora</i>	3.8	12.5	16.3
treeless plains	low open woodlands typically dominated by Acacia spp., Grevillea pteridifolia and Banksia dentata	22.1	160.7	182.8
eucalypt forest (dense)	tall forest dominated by Eucalyptus miniata, E. tetrodonta and/or Corymbia nesophila (often with ironwood Erythrophleum chlorostachys subdominant), typically with dense tall understorey (variably including Acacia spp., Gronophyllum, Livistona); also including smaller areas of Lophostemon lactifluus and Eucalyptus ptychocarpa in drainage lines	610.0	1384.5	1994.5
eucalypt forest (mid-open)	tall forest dominated by Eucalyptus miniata, E. tetrodonta and/or Corymbia nesophila, typically with grassy understorey	477.7	2130.9	2608.6
eucalypt forest (open)	forest typically dominated by <i>Corymbia bleeseri</i> with open grassy understorey	152.6	873.5	1026.1
eucalypt woodland	woodland dominated by Eucalyptus oligantha or Corymbia latifolia or E. alba with grass understorey	1.1	94.8	94.8
plantations		2.2	78.9	81.1
built-up area		18.4	6.2	25.7

This analysis illustrates the dominant extent of eucalypt forests and woodlands, with such formations comprising a total of  $5725 \text{km}^2$  (76% of the total area of the Tiwi Islands). These vegetation types are described in more detail in section 2.2 below. This classification and mapping also shows the currently relatively low proportion of the Tiwi Islands that has been affected by town developments, plantations and other disturbances. At least 98% of the Tiwi Islands retains extensive relatively intact vegetation.

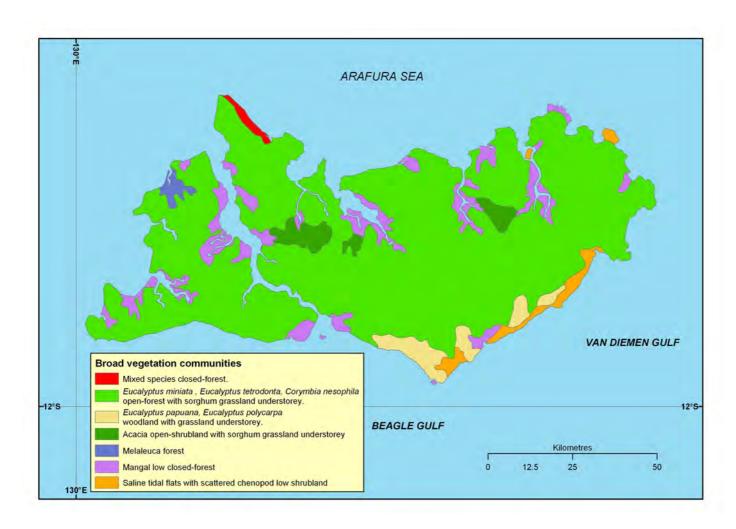


Figure 2.1. Broad classes of vegetation on the Tiwi Islands, as mapped for the 1: 1,000,000 vegetation map of the Northern Territory (Wilson et al. 1990).

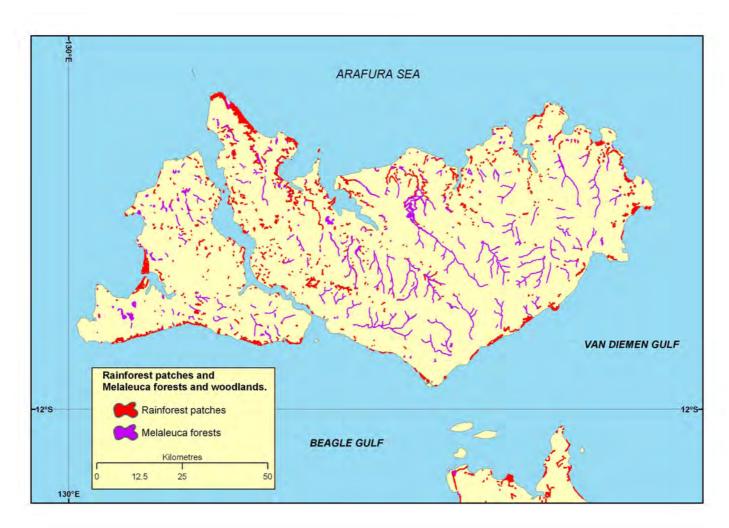


Figure 2.2. Location of rainforest patches and *Melaleuca* forests on the Tiwi Islands.

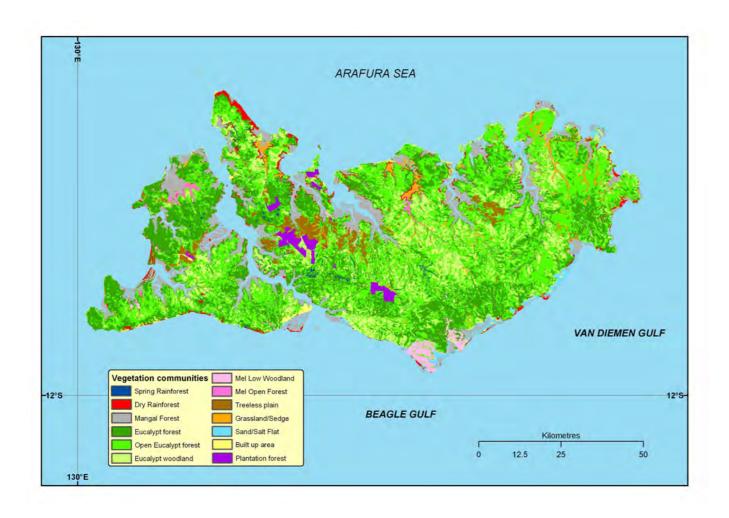


Figure 2.3. Map of vegetation communities on the Tiwi Islands, derived from satellite imagery and ground-truthing (Woinarski *et al.* 2000*a*).

# 2.2. Descriptions of major vegetation types.



Note that the descriptions given in this section are brief. Far more detailed descriptions of Tiwi Island environments are given in a project run concurrently with this study (Hollingsworth 2003).

#### rainforests generally

"Wet" and "dry" rainforests on the Tiwi Islands are highly significant at the Northern Territory scale, comprising between 5.8 and 14.8% (depending upon the mapping scale) of the total NT extent of rainforest, many of the largest patches, many of the most floristically rich patches, and many patches with high numbers of endemic and threatened specvies (Fensham and Woinarski 1992; Woinarski *et al.* 2000*a*).

The total number of rainforest patches on the Tiwi Islands was estimated by Woinarski *et al.* (2000*a*) to be 1261, of which 302 patches occur on Bathurst Island and 959 on Melville Island.

#### wet rainforest

Wet rainforests comprise many small patches of tall (canopy height 10-25m), dense (canopy cover 50-100%) and floristically diverse vegetation, typically occurring around springs and some sheltered watercourses. The most common canopy trees normally include *Calophyllum soulattri* and *Syzygium* spp.



These rainforests are floristically distinguished from other (drier) rainforest groups on the Tiwi Islands by the presence of the trees *Melicope elleryana*, *Fagraea racemosa*, *Planchonella xerocarpum*, *Rapanea* sp. DNA 45975, the palm *Hydriastele wendlendiana* and the ground fern *Dicranopteris linearis*.

More detailed descriptions are given in Russell-Smith (1991) and Fensham and Woinarski (1992). This class corresponds exactly to group 4b ("wet monsoon forests" of

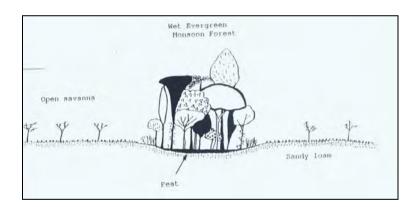
Brocklehurst 1998), and includes both groups 3 and 5 of Russell-Smith (1991), which match exactly "Complex Evergreen Monsoon Forest" and "Wet Evergreen Monsoon Forest" of Fensham and Woinarski (1992).

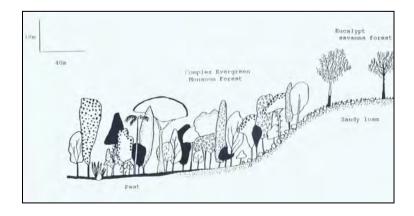
Patch sizes for these rainforest groups are typically small (mean=1.1 ha, range 3-45ha for Group 3; and mean=0.8ha, range=0.3-100ha for Group 5: Russell-Smith 1991).

Group 3: Rain forests are associated with springs emanating from the footslopes of low sandstone plateaux on Melville Island ... patches are centred on springs but extend also onto adjacent slopes with seasonally dry soils. Floristically they are distinguished from group 5 rainforest by their presence of Canarium australianum, Litsea glutinosa and Sterculia quadrifida. This rainforest group is restricted to the Tiwi Islands.

*Group 5*: Rain forests associated with drainage lines, and springs on open sandplain, Melville and Bathurst Islands. Soils are predominantly moist or waterlogged the year round ... This rainforest group is restricted to the Tiwi Islands, except for one patch on the mainland at Channel Point.

Typical environmental positions of these rainforest types are illustrated below (from Fensham and Woinarski 1992).





These rainforests face a number of threats associated with their small size, dependence upon continuous availability of water, and their environmental position embedded within a highly flammable savanna. Russell-Smith and Bowman (1992) noted that,

for group 3 rainforests, 38% of patches were "severely disturbed" by fire; 44% were "severely disturbed" by buffalo, and 6% were "severely disturbed" by exotic plants;

for group 5 rainforests, 39% of patches were "severely disturbed" by fire; 15% were "severely disturbed" by buffalo, and 9% were "severely disturbed" by pigs.

#### dry rainforest

Dry rainforests include coastal thickets and patches on the dry slopes of broken plateau edge. They are floristically diverse, typically larger than for wet rainforest patches, generally have moderate to closed canopies (cover 30-100%) and vary in canopy height from 4 to 20m. Many plants in many patches are deciduous or semi-deciduous.

Characteristic tree species include Glochidium xerocarpum, Mallotus nesophilus, Sterculia quadrifida, Croton habrophyllus, Hibiscus tiliaceus, Drypetes deplanchei, Ixora timorensis, Pouteria sericea, Strychnos lucida, Canarium australianum, Bombax ceiba, Polyalthia australis, Terminalia microcarpa and Syzygium forte.

This vegetation type corresponds to group 9 of Russell-Smith (1991) and vegetation type 4a (*dry monsoon vine thicket*) in Brocklehurst (1998), and three types described by Fensham and Woinarski (1992): *dry deciduous monsoon thicket, dry semi-deciduous monsoon thicket* and *dry evergreen monsoon forest*.



While patch size for dry rainforests is also typically small (mean 1.0 ha: Russell-Smith 1991), there are some extensive strands of dry rainforest, most notably the coastal rainforest patch

extending over about 2000 ha in the far northwest of Melville Island (Cape van Diemen area). This is one of the largest rainforest patches in the Northern Territory.

Dry rainforests face many of the same threatening processes as wet rainforests, except that they may have less narrow hydrological requirements, and the absence of water reduces their attraction to pigs and buffalo. On Aboriginal lands generally, Russell-Smith and Bowman (1992) noted that 25% of dry rainforest patches were "severely affected" by fire, 10% by buffalo or cattle, 4% by pigs and 20% by exotic plants.

#### riparian vegetation

Across the Tiwi Islands watercourses are flanked by typically relatively dense vegetation, dominated by mangroves in the lower reaches, paperbark *Melaleuca* forests and wet rainforests for much of their extent, but also including distinctive components such as thickets of bamboo *Bambusa arnhemica*, particularly on some watercourses in the south of Melville Island. The mangrove palm *Nypa fruticans* is another localised but distinctive component of Tiwi riparian vegetation. Partly because of its narrowly linear nature, and also because of its heterogeneity, riparian vegetation is neither mapped nor treated as a distinctive class in any broad classification of Tiwi vegetation patterns.



#### mangroves

Mangrove vegetation ("mangal") includes a mosaic of vegetation types varying from tall closed forests to low open woodlands, and with a range of dominant canopy species, occurring around much of the coast and lower reaches of waterways around the Tiwi Islands.





Variation in the floristic composition and structure of mangrove vegetation is described and mapped in Messel *et al.* (1979), and related to landscape position, particularly the frequency and extent of tidal indundation. Brocklehurst (1998) summarises the floristic

variation and considers 7 subdivisions of his group 3 ("mangrove closed forests/low closed forests"):

- *Sonneratia alba* open forests and woodlands, as the most seaward zone, on accreting mudbanks and in downsteam sections of tidal watercourses;
- Rhizophora stylosa closed forests, typically around river mouths;
- Bruguiera parviflora closed forests, along the banks of tidal creeks;
- R. stylosa Diospyros littorea Xylocarpus moluccensis open forests in the middle and upper reaches of tidal creeks;
- R. stylosa R. apiculata open forests, in the upstream portions of tidal creeks;
- Ceriops tagal closed forests, on the landward side of mangrove complexes;
- Sonneratia lanceolatea Lumnitzera racemosa woodlands and low open forests, along tidal reaches and extending into freshwater creeks.



#### sand & salt flats

Areas of saline clay flats occur intermixed with mangals in areas subjected to tidal inundation. Although typically denuded, some areas support a sparse cover of succulent herbs (saltbushes) including *Halosarcia indica* and *Tecticornia australasica*, and grasses (most commonly *Sporobolus virginicus*).

Within the broad community mapped in Fig. 2.3, we also include beach and relatively unvegetated sand dune complexes. The little vegetation typically present in these environments is dominated by *Ipomoea pes-caprae* and a range of creepers typically with floating propagules, readily dispersed by sea.





#### sedgelands & grasslands

These are seasonally indundated floodplain and other wetland areas, typically dominated by the sedges *Eleocharis dulcis* and *Schoenoplectus litoralis* (in low-lying flats, such as around Goose Creek). There has been relatively little inventory of the wet grassland and sedgelands of the Tiwi Islands, but vegetation patterns general for this environment in the Top End are described by Cowie *et al.* (2000). The Tiwi wet grasslands and sedgelands are modest in area relative to the larger and more diverse floodplains of the Northern Territory mainland.

Threats to this community include grazing and physical destruction by buffalo, pigs, cattle and horses; altered hydrological processes, including saltwater intrusion; fires in the late dry season; and invasion by exotic plant species (potentially most damaging include mimosa *Mimosa pigra*, para grass *Urochloa mutica* and olive hymenachne *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*).



#### Melaleuca open forests

Forests dominated by a range of *Melaleuca* spp. (typically including *M. leucadendra* and *M. viridiflora*) occur in riparian areas and swamplands. Typically these are tall (15-30m) and structurally relatively simple (little shrub layer). They occur on a range of soil types from alluvial sands to light clays and duplex soils. In some areas, they grade into wet rainforests, *Melaleuca* low woodlands or sedgelands/grasslands.

Threats to this community include grazing and physical destruction by buffalo, pigs, cattle and horses; altered hydrological processes, including saltwater intrusion; fires in the late dry season; and invasion by exotic plant species (potentially including mimosa *Mimosa pigra*, para grass *Urochloa mutica* and olive hymenachne *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*).



#### Melaleuca low woodlands

This community includes woodlands, low woodlands and shrublands, typically on poorly drained, seasonally inundated clay or sand/clay duplex soils, dominated by *M. nervosa* and/or *M. viridiflora. Pandanus spiralis* may be common, and the ground layer typically includes sedges *Fimbristylis* spp. and the grass *Eriachne burkittii*.

This community may grade into treeless plains, sedgelands/grasslands, and *Melaleuca* open forest communities.

Threats to this community include grazing and physical destruction by buffalo, pigs, cattle and horses; altered hydrological processes; and fires in the late dry season.



#### treeless plains

The distinctive treeless plains comprise low open woodlands typically dominated by Acacia spp., Grevillea pteridifolia, Lophostemon lactifluus and Banksia dentata, typically with a shrub layer including Grevillea pleuricaulis (formerly G. goodii), Hibbertia cistifolia, Jacksonia dilatata, , Pachynema complanatum, Persoonia falcata, Planchonia careya and Syzygium eucalyptoides, and a dense low understorey including Alloteropsis semialata, Aristida holathera, Drosera petiolaris, Eragrostis cumingii, Eriachne avenacea, E. burkittii, E. ciliata, E. obtusa, E. squarrosa, E. triseta, Eulalia mackinlayi, Mitrasacme exserta, Polygala orbicularis, Rhychospora heterochaeta, Sorghum plumosum, Spermacoce breviflora and Thaumastochloa major.

Variation in species composition and structure is subtle and follows minor variations in topography, moisture availability and soil texture (Wilson 1991; Wilson and Bowman 1994; Wilson and Fensham 1994; Brocklehurst 1998).



At the 1: 1 million scale of the Northern Territory vegetation map, the treeless plains of the Tiwi Islands are recognised as endemic (Wilson *et al.* 1990). Smaller areas of floristically related heathlands, swamplands, low open woodlands and grasslands occur scattered across the Top End, from near Port Keats to north-eastern Arnhem Land, but the Tiwi plains are by far the most extensive.

Intensive studies of the treeless plains in the Yapilika and Rola Plains areas of western Melville Island have been conducted by Wilson (1991) and Wilson and Fensham (1994), with fine-scale mapping of some of these areas by Wells and van Cuylenburg (1978) and

van Cuylenburg and Dunlop (1973). However, Wilson and Fensham (1994) noted that spatial variation in the floristics of this vegetation type was not well correlated with land unit mapping.

Wilson and Fensham (1994) noted more extensive variation between the treeless plains of western Melville Island and those of Bathurst Island (which are smaller and occur on relatively steep ridgelines with lateritic pisoliths overlying sandy soils) and of eastern Melville Island (which they considered to be less open, although they cautioned that these had not been sampled).

Threats to the treeless plains include conversion to forestry, inappropriate fire regimes, altered water regimes and feral animals. Wilson and Fensham (1994) noted that "since 1975 about 2000 ha (10 per cent) of the plains of western Melville Island have been cleared and replaced by plantations of the Central American tree *Pinus caribaea*.". Relatively poor growth rates of plantation trees on (at least some) treeless plains has since discouraged this conversion (ForSci 1999).

#### eucalypt forest

This community mostly comprises tall (canopy height 15 to 25m) relatively dense (canopy cover 15-30%) forest dominated by Darwin Woollybutt *Eucalyptus miniata*, Darwin Stringybark *E. tetrodonta* and/or Melville Island Bloodwood *Corymbia nesophila* (often with ironwood *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* subdominant), typically with dense tall shrub understorey (variably including *Acacia* spp., *Gronophyllum*, *Livistona*) over a tussock grass ground layer. It occus on sandy red earths to sandy loams. On shallower soils *Corymbia bleeseri* may be dominant and form monospecific stands.



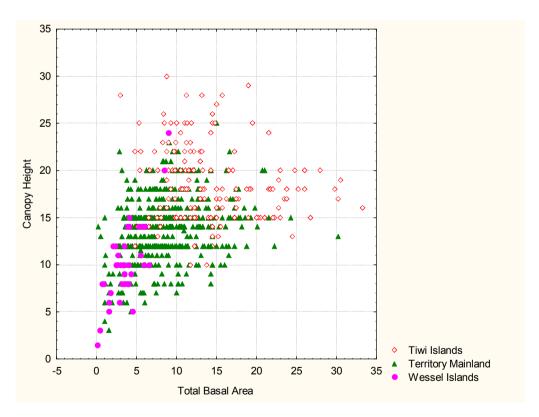
This community corresponds to vegetation types "1a. E. miniata, E. tetrodonta, E. nesophila (=Corymbia nesophila) open-forest with Chrysopogon fallax grassland understorey", "1b E. miniata, E. tetrodonta open forest/woodland with tussock grassland understorey", "1e. E. miniata woodland with Eriachne triseta tussock grassland understorey", and "1i Callitris intratropica open-forest/woodland with mixed eucalyptus species" of Brocklehurst (1998).

Tree height and canopy cover, and the floristics and density of understorey vary substantially depending upon fire history and soil depth and texture. These eucalypt forests are is the dominant vegetation type on the Tiwi Islands, occupying about 76% of the area of Melville Island and 73% of Bathurst Island.

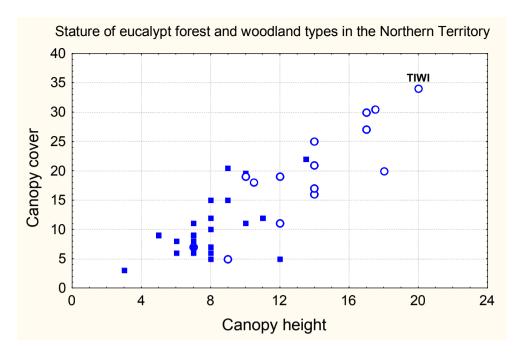
The Tiwi eucalypt forests are floristically distinctive from most other eucalypt forests in the Northern Territory, sharing only with eucalypt forests on Cobourg Peninsula the codominance by *Corymbia nesophila* (Wilson *et al.* 1990).

The Tiwi Island eucalypt forests include the best-developed eucalypt formations in the Northern Territory, typically with tallest trees and densest cover. This is illustrated in Figs 2.4 and 2.5. In Fig. 2.4, we plot actual values of canopy height and tree basal area recorded in more than 700 identically-sized quadrats dominated by *Eucalyptus miniata* and/or *E. tetrodonta* on the Tiwi Islands, the Northern Territory mainland and on the Wessel and English Company Islands off north-eastern Arnhem Land. In Fig. 2.5, we, graph the mean canopy height and canopy cover given for all eucalypt-dominated vegetation types in the Northern Territory by Wilson *et al.* (1990).

The Tiwi Island eucalypt forests are favoured for the development of plantation forestry (First Management Corporation 1999; ForSci 1999; Woinarski et al. 2000a), with prospects of 30,000 to 100,000 ha of clearing for the establishment of plantations of exotic tree species, particularly *Acacia mangium*. The eucalypt forests are also affected by feral buffalo, cattle and horses; may be undergoing change through altered fire regimes; and may be threatened by invasion or increase in a range of exotic plant species, particularly mission grass *Pennisetum polystachion*, and gamba grass *Andropogon gayanus* (Fensham and Cowie 1998).



**Figure 2.4.** Recorded tree basal area and canopy height at identically-sized quadrats within forests dominated by *Eucalyptus miniata* and/or *E. tetrodonta* on the Tiwi Islands, mainland Northern Territory and the Wessel & English Company Islands off north-eastern Arnhem Land.



**Figure 2.5**. Mean canopy height and canopy cover given by Wilson *et al* (1990) for all eucalypt dominated vegetation types in the Northern Territory. Vegetation types dominated by *Eucalyptus miniata* and/or *E. tetrodonta* are depicted by open symbols; those dominated by other *Eucalyptus* or *Corymbia* species are depicted by filled squares. The Tiwi label represents Wilson *et al*'s (1990) vegetation class 3, which occurs predominantly on the Tiwi islands, but also occurs (although less extensively) on Cobourg Peninsula.



### eucalypt woodland

There are a range of eucalypt formations on the Tiwi Islands other than those dominated by Eucalyptus miniata, E. tetrodonta and/or Corymbia nesophila. The most extensive are woodlands (canopy height typically 10-15m; canopy cover 10-20%) dominated variably by Eucalyptus oligantha, Corymbia latifolia, E. alba and/or Corymbia disjucta (formerly E. confertiflora), typically with a grassy understorey (including Eriachne spp., Chrysopogon fallax, Alloteropsis semialata, Aristida spp, Sorghum spp and Themeda triandra), with scattered low shrubs (including Planchonia careya, Acacia spp., Gardenia megasperma and Grevillea decurrens). The community typically grows on loamy sand and gravelly clay loam soils, on lower slopes and drainage flats, particularly on the southern slopes and flats of Melville Island.

This community matches vegetation type "1g. Eucalyptus oligantha, Erythrophleum chlorostachys open forest/woodland with Chrysopogon fallax tussock grassland understorey" of Brocklehurst (1998).

These woodlands are typically heavily grazed by feral buffalo, cattle and horses; have relatively high levels of infestation by some exotic plants (notably including hyptis *Hyptis suaveolens*); and may be exposed to frequent fires (Fensham and Woinarski 1992; Fensham and Cowie 1998; Woinarski *et al.* 2000*a*). Although not well portrayed by the NT 1:1,000,000 scale vegetation map (Wilson *et al.* 1990), woodlands dominated by *Eucalyptus oligantha* are far more extensive on the Tiwi Islands than in mainland areas generally.

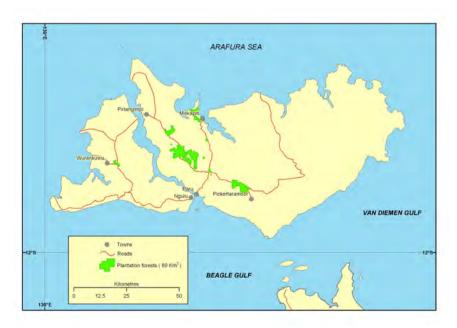


# plantations

This land cover type includes older plantations (>20 yrs old), typically of *Callitris intratropica* and *Pinus carribaea*, with smaller areas of *Eucalyptus* and *Acacia* spp. Haines (1986) and ForSci (1999) provide a history of the plantation forestry: this includes information on up to 200 species that were tested for growth potential. More recent plantations have been predominantly of *Acacia mangium*, with some smaller areas of other *Acacia* spp., and *Eucalyptus* spp. This community matches vegetation type "9. *Plantations*" of Brocklehurst (1998).







## 3. TIWI PLANTS

#### 3.1. Previous documentation

Until recently, European knowledge of Tiwi environments has been generally thin and fragmentary. A very early account of Tiwi environments and vegetation was provided by Holtze (1892). This narrative includes a list of about 150 plant species, although the identity of some of the names given is now ambiguous or lost in the fog of more than 100 years of taxonomic changes.

There was no further substantial scientific interest in Tiwi vegetation for nearly seventy years, until the development of forestry in the 1960s. This fuelled a series of environmental description and mapping studies, most notably relatively high resolution (1:50,000 scale or finer) mapping of land units of the Yapilika and Seventeen-Mile Plains areas of Melville Island (van Cuylenburg and Dunlop 1973; Wells and van Cuylenburg 1978), coarser-scale (1:100,000) mapping of land systems for the western half of Melville Island (Wells *et al.* 1978) and for parts of Bathurst Island (Olsen 1980). These reports included lists of plant species from the general study area.

The forestry industry also prompted some landmark studies of Tiwi vegetation ecology, most notably by Stocker (1968) at Karslake Peninsula, by Wilson on the dynamics of the eucalypt forest – "treeless plain" boundaries on western Melville Island (Wilson 1991; Wilson and Bowman 1994; Wilson and Fensham 1994); and by Fensham on patterning and regeneration of the eucalypt forests generally on western Melville Island (Fensham 1990*a*, 1994*a,b*; Fensham and Bowman 1992; Fensham and Kirkpatrick 1992). These studies remain the most substantial documentation of any aspects of Tiwi environments.

Tiwi rainforests were examined in detail by Russell-Smith (1991), who undertook floristic inventories of 98 rainforest patches on the Tiwi Islands, as part of a survey of Territory rainforest plant communities generally. He demonstrated that Tiwi rainforests were floristically distinct from those of the mainland. Subsequent work included information on Tiwi rainforests within Territory-wide consideration of the conservation status of rainforests (Russell-Smith and Bowman 1992; Price *et al.* 1995), the distribution of rainforest plants (Liddle *et al.* 1994), as well as additional, more specific and extensive sampling of plants and animals within Tiwi rainforest patches (Fensham and Woinarski 1992), and consideration of the conservation status of one Tiwi rainforest plant (Fensham 1993*a*).

Other Tiwi vegetation types have received some, but less comprehensive, attention in the last few decades. Messel *et al.* (1979) described the characteristics and distribution of mangrove and riparian vegetation along parts of the Johnston River, Andranangoo, Bath, Dongau and Tinganoo Creek systems and Pulloloo and Brenton Bay Lagoons. Fensham (1993*b*) described a mosaic of *Melaleuca* forest, monsoon rainforest and strand (coastal) vegetation at a Holocene beach ridge system on the west of Bathurst Island.

To some extent arising from this vegetation inventory and ecological research, a number of recent papers have focused on taxonomic descriptions of Tiwi plant species (e.g., Hay 1992; Barker 1998). Shapcott (1998, 2000) examined the genetic composition of a number

of rainforest plant species, and concluded that Melville Island was a significant rainforest refugium, based on an exceptionally high proportion of rare allelles and polymorphic loci for the rainforest palm *Carpentaria acuminata*.

Leach (1992) and Fensham and Cowie (1998) provided a review of the distribution of weeds on the Tiwi Island and recommendations for management; and a weed management program was developed within a plantation forestry strategic plan (Flanagan 2000; Tiwi Land Council 2000).

Parts of the rich Tiwi ethnobotanical store of knowledge were documented in Puruntatameri *et al.* (2001), who described the traditional use and other cultural significance of 216 plants occurring on the Tiwi Islands. Less detailed information on Tiwi ethnobotany was also presented in Davis (1983), Fensham and Woinarski (1992) and Anon (1998).

Knowledge of vegetation history of the Tiwi Islands is limited. There is one important plant fossil site near Cape van Diemen on the north-western tip of Melville Island. These fossils are presumed to be from the Tertiary period (between 1.8 and 65 million years ago), and have been described in Hughes (1976), Pole and Bowman (1996) and Pole (1998). Pole and Bowman (1996) considered that the fossil flora comprised mostly non-rainforest elements, and indicated a seasonal climate. Pole (1998) narrowed the dating of this fossil material to probably Paleocene or Eocene (53-65 million years ago), assigned many plant fossil fragments to genera, including the distinctive conifer *Araucaria*, and suggested that the vegetation during this period may have been dominated by this group.

Far more recently, the vegetation of the Tiwi Islands has been influenced by climatic oscillations in the Pleistocene and their timing relative to sea level changes and the periodic isolation of the islands from the Northern Territory mainland. At the time of their most recent isolation (around 8,000 years ago), regional climates were generally characterised by lower rainfall, so that the dominant vegetation type on the Tiwi islands at their isolation was probably more woodland than open forest (Fig. 3.1). Riparian areas, particularly those associated with the drowned river channel that is now Apsley Strait, would have provided refuge for many rainforest plants during periods of otherwise more inclement climate. Such riparian refugia would have been especially important on the Tiwi Islands because these islands generally lack the topographic complexity that has provided refuge elsewhere in the Top End (most particularly in the western Arnhem Land sandstone massif).

#### 3.2. Studies associated with this project

For this project, we sampled plants at a large series of quadrats on Melville and Bathurst Island. These were sited to sample the range of environments and geographic areas on the Tiwi Islands, although with a bias towards eucalypt tall open forest, in acknowledgement of the focus on this environment for proposed forestry development.

In 2000, fieldwork was undertaken on Melville Island only, over the periods 31 January to 7 February and 1 July to 29 September (for a total of 410 person-days). This survey included sampling of plants and vertebrate animals in 204 50m x 50m quadrats (each sampled over a 3 night period). Survey results were reported in Brock *et al.* (2000) for the February fieldwork, and Woinarski *et al.* (2000*a*) for the subsequent fieldwork. In 2001, fieldwork was undertaken mainly on Bathurst Island (115 50m x 50m quadrats), over the periods 21

April to 9 June 2001 (for a total of 147 person-days). Sampling procedure was as for the 2000 fieldwork on Melville Island.

In addition to this broad-scale inventory sampling, in 2001 and 2002 we also conducted some additional sampling on Melville Island, in areas in and around the proposed forestry development.

Over the period 1999-2002, the NT Herbarium also undertook substantial fieldwork on both Bathurst and Melville Island, in part for collection of specimens for pharmaceutical evaluation and as contributions to this project. This sampling included complete floristic inventory in 421 20m x 20m plots.

### 3.3. Collation of existing information: species records

For conservation planning, the utility of data is related largely to locational precision and the extent of systematic sampling. The more useful data sets for conservation planning are listed in Table 3.1 below, and their coverage is mapped in Figs. 3.2.

There are some notable caveats in the interpretation of most of these data sets.

- The locational information for all data sets originating before about 1995 is generally lacking tight precision.
- The nomenclature used, especially for plants, has been variable, and there have been some major taxonomic changes since some of the data sets were collected. Wherever possible, we have updated and standardised this nomenclature to that of Dunlop *et al.* (1995) (and unpublished updates since then by the NT Herbarium).
- Some quadrat-based data sets are far from comprehensive (e.g. recording only woody plants), and hence the non-recording of a particular species at a particular sampled site can't be interpreted unambiguously as an absence.
- There is generally a major geographic bias in data collection, with most records from the western half of Melville Island.
- The environmental information accompanying species records has been especially variable and inconsistent. Some data bases have no associated environmental data. In general, the inconsistencies in sample variables (and the ways in which these were measured) preclude the amalgamation of these across data sets.

Prior to this project, the floristic data sets were generally in idiosyncratic filing systems. All have now been collated to a consistent format (accessible either in Access or Excel).

Together, the 1999-2002 surveys associated with this project produced 1893 records of plants from those quadrats, and a further 7532 records of plants from 360 plots sampled by NT Herbarium staff (included within "herbarium quadrats" in Table 3.1). This survey effort substantially increased the amount of information documented for Tiwi flora.

Table 3.1: The main floristic data sets available for the Tiwi islands.

data set	no. of sites	no. of records	total no. species	taxa recorded	quadrat -based?	period	locational precision	reference
rainforest patches	120	7004	320	all plant species	N	1989-92	+/- 100m	Russell-Smith (1991); Fensham & Woinarski (1992)
NT 1:1,000,000 vegetation map	62	936	168	all plant species (but generally incomplete)	Y	1987-91	+/- 500m	Wilson et al. (1990)
"treeless plain" - forest boundary	123	2683	132	all plant species	Y	1988-90	+/- 100m	Wilson (1991)
eucalypt forest composition	193	4890	274	all plant species	Y	1988-90	+/- 100m	Fensham (1990 <i>a</i> )
this survey: Melville Island	204	1022	120	mostly woody species	Y	1999- 2002	+/- 10m	Woinarski et al. (2000a).
this survey - Bathurst Island	115	762	98	mostly woody species	Y	2001	+/- 10m	this report
herbarium quadrats	421	8697	821	all plant species	Y	1995+	+/- 10m	NT Herbarium
weeds	50	716	188	all plant species	Y	1988-92	+/- 100m	Fensham & Woinarski (1992); Fensham & Cowie (1998)
flora atlas/herbarium records	-	4539*	1037	individual records of individual species	N	19th century on	variable	NT Herbarium
Total	1288	26706 (excluding Herbarium records)	1215					

<sup>\*</sup> note that this includes some duplication with the other data bases listed (e.g. where herbarium specimens were collected from sample sites).

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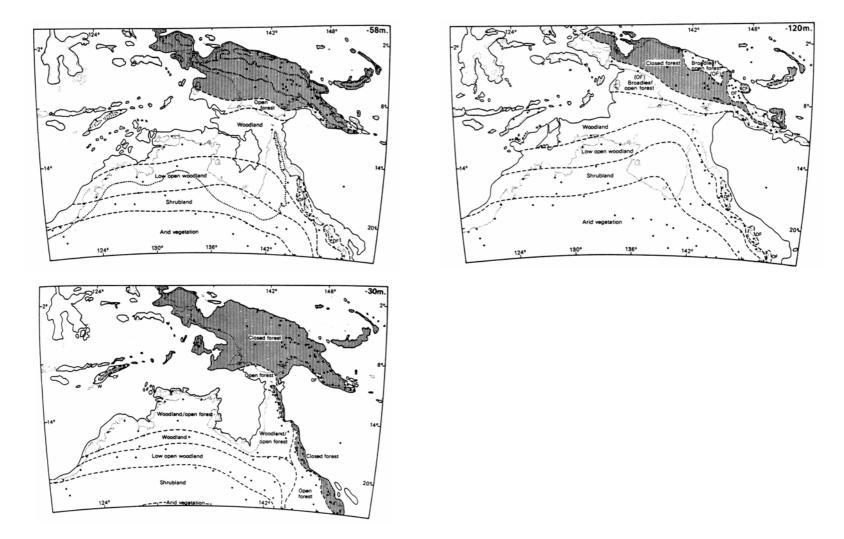


Figure 3.1. Reconstruction of shorelines and vegetation types at 20,000 years before present (top left), 15,000 years ago (top right) and 8,000 years ago (bottom left), showing extent of isolation of the Tiwi Islands. Current shorelines are indicated by light dotted lines (from Nix and Kalma 1972). Sea levels relative to present-day are given in top right of each figure.

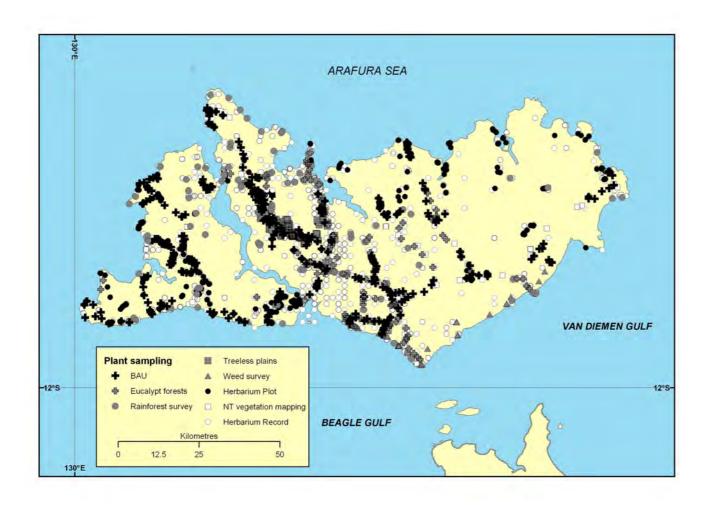


Figure 3.2. Location of sites sampled for plant species. Data sources: BAU (this survey); Eucalypt forests (Fensham 1990*a*); Rainforest survey (Russell-Smith 1991; Fensham and Woinarski 1992); Treeless plains (Wilson 1991); weed survey (Fensham and Cowie 1998); NT vegetation mapping (Wilson *et al.* 1990).

### 3.4. Species composition

Following aggregation of diverse data sets, melding a consistent nomenclature and deletion of dubious records, the species lists derived from the current survey and collation of previous records are included in Appendix A. This lists a total of 1195 plant species (1068 native and 127 exotic species). The contribution of recent work is evident in the substantial (48%) increase in the tally of native plant species, above the 722 species given by Fensham and Cowie (1998).

For the Tiwi Islands very many species have been recorded very infrequently (Fig. 3.3), with a total of 164 species known in the Tiwi flora from only one site, and a further 244 species known from between only two and five sites. This suggests that either (i) survey effort is still relatively inadequate (and that many more species are likely to be added with further survey); and/or (ii) that many species may have very localised distributions on the Tiwi Islands. Both of these explanations of this frequency distribution are possible, and both provide considerable constraints on conservation planning.

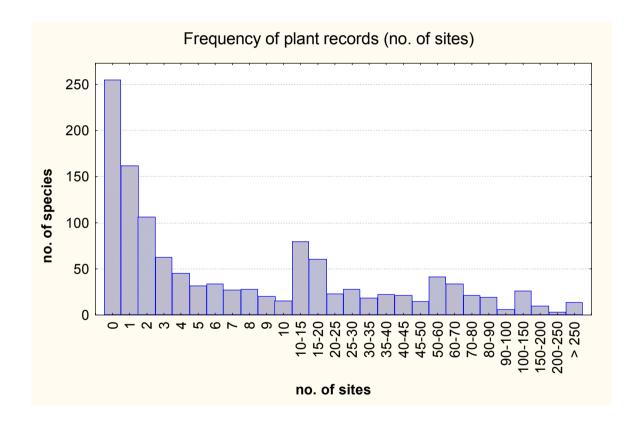


Fig. 3.3. Frequency distribution of number of sites from which plant species have been recorded on the Tiwi Islands. Note that the total number of sites for which we have data is 1288. Species recorded from 0 sites refer to thos especies known from the Tiwi Islands, but not recorded from any sampled plot (e.g. Herbarium records).

A comparison of the plant list of Holtze (1892) and that derived from recent surveys provides some suggestion of vegetation change, or alternatively provides further evidence

that plant sampling is still far from comprehensive. Notwithstanding the collection of more than 25,000 records and the addition of more than 1000 species to the Tiwi plant list since Holtze, there are no Tiwi records of one conspicuous species, the bullrush *Typha domingensis*, since Holtze's (1892) account, and there is still one specimen record only for two species recorded by Holtze: *Acanthus ilicifolius* and *Mimulus uvedaliae*.

In contrast to the high proportion of "singleton" species, a range of species are clearly widespread and abundant. The species recorded from the highest number of the 1288 sites sampled are Livistona humilis (448 sites), Eucalyptus tetrodonta (431), Corymbia nesophila (412), Eucalyptus miniata (409), Planchonia careya (394), Eriachne triseta (327), Persoonia falcata (322), Buchanania obovata (295), Erythrophleum chlorostachys (287), Alphitonia excelsa (286), Eriachne avenacea (285), Pandanus spiralis (262), Grevillea pteridifolia (254), Hibbertia cistifolia (235), Acacia lamprocarpa (230), Smilax australis (228), Terminalia ferdinandiana (198), Acacia auriculiformis (193), Cycas armstrongii (191), Thaumastochloa major (189), Pachynema complanatum (180), Flemingia parviflora (178), Ampelocissus acetosa (173), Acacia difficilis (171), Lophostemon lactifluus (162) and Eriachne burkitti (157). This listing is partly related to the abundance and extensive distribution of these species, but also reflects some sampling bias to woody species (in some data sets) and to eucalypt forests.

Two data sets are based on sampling full floristics within only single major habitats: rainforests (Russell-Smith 1991 and Fensham and Woinarski 1992), and eucalypt forests (Fensham 1990a). The rainforest inventory included 320 plant species from 120 rainforest patches. Of these species, 33 were recorded in one patch only. The most frequently recorded species were Flagellaria indica (99 patches), Smilax australis (98), Acacia auriculiformis (85), Opilia amentacea (79), Myristica insipida (77) and Carallia brachiata (72). The eucalypt forest data set included 274 plant species within 193 sites. 52 species were recorded from only one of the sites. The most frequently recorded species were Planchonia careya (126 sites), Hibbertia cistifolia (124), Acacia lamprocarpa (118), Eriachne triseta (113), Flemingia parviflora (103), Pseudopogonatherum contortum (102), Buchanania obovata (98), Persoonia falcata (95), Livistona humilis (95), Eriachne avenacea (95), Eucalyptus miniata (91), Desmodium pycnotrichum (81), Corymbia nesophila (78), Eucalyptus tetrodonta (75), Thaumastochloa major (74), Chrysopogon fallax (72), Terminalia ferdinandiana (70), Alloteropsis semialata (70), Alphitonia excelsa (69) and Erythrophleum chlorostachys (69).

The high rate of "singleton" species implies that there is much spatial variability even within ostensibly homogeneous habitats and/or that some species are rare or very patchily distributed.

Species-rich groups on the Tiwi Islands include the families Poaceae (grasses: 141 species), Cyperaceae (sedges: 104 spp.), Fabaceae (peas: 86 spp.), Myrtaceae (50 species, including 20 eucalypts (*Corymbia* and *Eucalyptus* spp.)), Euphorbiaceae (49 spp.), Rubiaceae (42 spp.), Mimosaceae (28 spp., including 17 native *Acacia* spp.), Convolvulaceae (27 spp.), Asteraceae (daisies: 23 spp.), Scrophulaceae (23 spp.), and Verbenaceae (21 spp.). There are also 19 orchid species (Orchidaceae), 14 lily species (Liliaceae), 8 palm species (Arecaceae), and 7 *Grevillea* species (within 13 species in the family Proteaceae).

Within the known Tiwi flora, there are at least 25 distinctive but undescribed species, a high proportion which partly reflects the considerable recent survey work.

The Tiwi flora is rich relative to many other sampled areas in the Northern Territory (Table 3.2; Fig. 3.4), however such comparisons of relative species richness are much affected by

variation in sampling effort. Note that in this comparison, inland lower rainfall areas (such as Limmen Gate, Gregory and Sturt Plateau) typically have fewer plant species than similarly-sized higher-rainfall coastal regions, and that floristic richness is especially pronounced in topographically complex, stony areas (such as the Alligator Rivers Region and Nitmiluk).

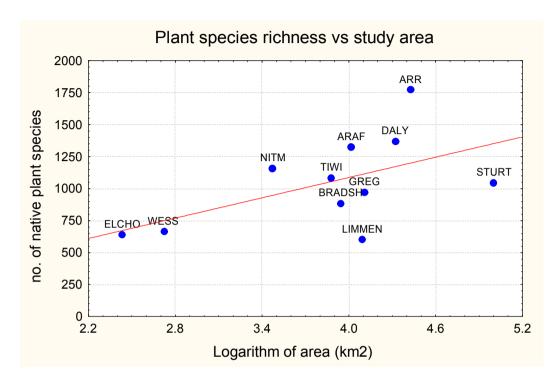


Figure 3.4. The number of native plant species recorded on the Tiwi Islands compared with other sampled areas in the Top End of the Northern Territory, expressed in relation to study area.

The proportion of exotic species (10.6%) is high compared with that reported for some other NT island groups (e.g. 2.8% for the Wessel and English Company Islands: Woinarski et al. 2000b). But this proportion is somewhat misleading, as most of the exotic species are restricted to settlements, plantations and highly disturbed areas. Fensham and Cowie (1998) considered that "the vast majority of the native vegetation on the Tiwi Islands is free of exotic plants", and that only 10 exotic plant species were naturalised (that is, with persistent populations in "natural" areas, away from disturbance): Alysicarpus vaginalis, Cyperus rotundus, Dactyloctenium aegyptium, Echinchloa colona, Hyptis suaveolens, Lantana camara, Malachra fasciata, Passiflora foetida, Stylosanthes humilis and Triumfetta rhomboidea. Restricted to these species, the proportion of naturalised species in the flora of undisturbed areas falls to 0.9%, substantially less than the equivalent figure for naturalised exotics in undisturbed areas of Kakadu National Park (5.3%), in the total NT flora (5.3%) and the 15% reported for Australia as a whole (Cowie and Werner 1987; Bowman et al. 1988; State of the Environment Advisory Council 1996).

Table 3.2 Comparison of known tallies for native plant species (and exotic plant species) on the Tiwi Islands and some other sampled areas in the Top End of the Northern Territory.

Location	Area (km²)	no. native plant species	no. naturalised exotic plant species	source
Tiwi Islands	7,481	1086	10	this study
Alligator Rivers Region	26,500	1773	99	Brennan (1996)
Wessel and English Company Islands	525	665	19	Woinarski et al. (2000b)
Elcho Island	270	640	27	Dunlop et al. (1975)
Arafura catchment, central Arnhem Land	10,365	1325		DIPE unpublished data base
Gregory National Park	12,727	971		DIPE unpublished data base
Bradshaw (Juliki)	8,710	886		DIPE unpublished data base
Sturt Plateau bioregion	98,954	1050		DIPE unpublished data base
Nitmiluk National Park	2,947	1160		DIPE unpublished data base
Daly Basin bioregion	20,800	1373		DIPE unpublished data base
Limmen Gate National Park	12,337	602		DIPE unpublished data base

#### 3.5. Listed threatened plants

There have been many reviews of the conservation status of Australian plants. Such categorisation provides a measure of priorities for management and for the assessment of impacts of proposed land uses. Where these lists are annexed to legislation (such as in the federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 and the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000), they provide an explicit linkage for triggering particular actions or assessment. Lists are updated regularly to reflect increased knowledge, changes in conservation security, and trends in abundance. Here we collate current listings for Tiwi plant species. The lists we use are (i) regulations associated with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999; and (ii) the proposed list of conservation status of Northern Territory wildlife, appended to the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Amendment Act 2000 (Anon 2002). Both lists use the most recent IUCN criteria (Version 3.1) for assessing conservation status (IUCN 2000). A detailed review of all NT plant species was undertaken by staff of the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory in 2002, and formed the basis of the conservation status given here. Given that the same set of criteria is used in both federal and NT listing, it is likely that the status most recently assigned to endemic NT species will be taken up at the national level. Table 3.3 summarises Tiwi plants in these lists.

**Table 3.3.** Threatened plants recorded from the Tiwi Islands, based on regulations of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 ("National status") and those of the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000 ("NT status"). For status, capital letters denote species that are endemic to the Northern Territory. Status codes: CR=critically endangered; EN=endangered; V=vulnerable; DD=data deficient.

scientific name	FAMILY	NT status	National status	habitat
Elaeocarpus miegei	ELAEOCARPACEAE	CR		rainforest
Burmannia D61177 Bathurst Island	BURMANNIACEAE	EN	EN	rainforest
Cephalomanes obscurum	HYMENOPHYLLACEAE	en		rainforest
Garcinia warrenii	CLUSIACEAE	en		rainforest
Tarennoidea wallichii	RUBIACEAE	EN		rainforest
Typhonium jonesii	ARACEAE	EN		eucalypt open forest
Typhonium mirabile	ARACEAE	EN		eucalypt open forest
Utricularia subulata	LENTIBULARIACEAE	en		Melaleuca woodland
Xylopia D30127 Melville Island	ANNONACEAE	EN		rainforest
Calochilus caeruleus	ORCHIDACEAE	v		paperbark swamp
Cycas armstrongii	CYCADACEAE	V		eucalypt open forest
Dendromyza reinwardtiana	SANTALACEAE	v		rainforest
Endiandra limnophila	LAURACEAE	v		rainforest
Freycinetia excelsa	PANDANACEAE	v		rainforest
Freycinetia percostata	PANDANACEAE	v		rainforest
Hoya australis oramicola	ASCLEPIADACEAE	V		rainforest
Luisia teretifolia	ORCHIDACEAE	v		rainforest
Mapania macrocephala	CYPERACEAE	v		rainforest
Mitrella D24710 Melville Is.	ANNONACEAE	V		rainforest
Thrixspermum congestum	ORCHIDACEAE	v		rainforest
Actinostachys wagneri	SCHIZAEACEAE	dd		rainforest
Adiantum aethiopicum	ADIANTACEAE	dd		rainforest
Baumea rubiginosa	CYPERACEAE	dd		swamp, sedgelands
Calochilus holtzei	ORCHIDACEAE	dd		eucalypt open forest
Chloris pumilio	POACEAE	dd		disturbed areas
Crinum venosum	LILIACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland
Crotalaria sessiliflora	FABACEAE	dd		eucalypt woodland
Cyperus compactus	CYPERACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland

scientific name	FAMILY	NT status	National status	habitat
Dendrobium trilamellatum	ORCHIDACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland
Didymoplexis pallens	ORCHIDACEAE	dd		rainforest; sedgeland
Eleocharis nuda	CYPERACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland; swamps
Eragrostis concinna	POACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland
Fimbristylis bisumbellata	CYPERACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland; swamps
Fimbristylis subaristata	CYPERACEAE	dd		coastal sedgelands
Habenaria ferdinandi	ORCHIDACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland
Habenaria hymenophylla	ORCHIDACEAE	dd		rainforest
Habenaria triplonema	ORCHIDACEAE	dd		eucalypt open forest
Hedyotis auricularia	RUBIACEAE	dd		riparian
Hypserpa polyandra	MENISPERMACEAE	dd		rainforest
Lindernia cowiei	SCROPHULARIACEAE	DD		floodplain wetlands
Liparis habenarina	ORCHIDACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland; eucalypt woodland
Malaxis acuminata	ORCHIDACEAE	DD		rainforest; Melaleuca woodland
Mitrasacme inornata	LOGANIACEAE	dd		eucalypt woodland
Mitrasacme stellata	LOGANIACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland
Najas browniana	NAJADACEAE	dd		aquatic
Nervilia peltata	ORCHIDACEAE	dd		eucalypt open forest
Pavetta tenella	RUBIACEAE	DD		rainforest margins
Rhynchospora gracillima	CYPERACEAE	dd		sedgelands; swamps
Scleria biflora	CYPERACEAE	DD		Melaleuca woodland
Scleria carphiformis	CYPERACEAE	dd		sedgelands; swamps
Spermacoce omissa	RUBIACEAE	DD		coastal dunes
Stylidium capillare	STYLIDIACEAE	dd		sedgelands; eucalypt woodland (wet)
Stylidium cordifolium	STYLIDIACEAE	dd		sedgelands; eucalypt woodland (wet)
Stylidium fissilobum	STYLIDIACEAE	dd		sedgelands; eucalypt woodland (wet)
Stylidium nominatum	STYLIDIACEAE	DD		Melaleuca woodland
Stylidium tenerrimum	STYLIDIACEAE	DD		sedgeland; treeless plain
Thaumastochloa pubescens	POACEAE	dd		eucalypt woodland
Triumfetta aquila	TILIACEAE	dd		coastal dunes
Triumfetta repens	TILIACEAE	dd		coastal dunes
Tropidia curculigoides	ORCHIDACEAE	DD		rainforest
Typhonium russell-smithii	ARACEAE	DD		eucalypt woodland; eucalypt open forest

scientific name	FAMILY	NT status	National status	habitat
Vernonia patula	ASTERACEAE	dd		rainforest
Websteria confervoides	CYPERACEAE	DD		aquatic
Xyris pusilla	XYRIDACEAE	dd		Melaleuca woodland

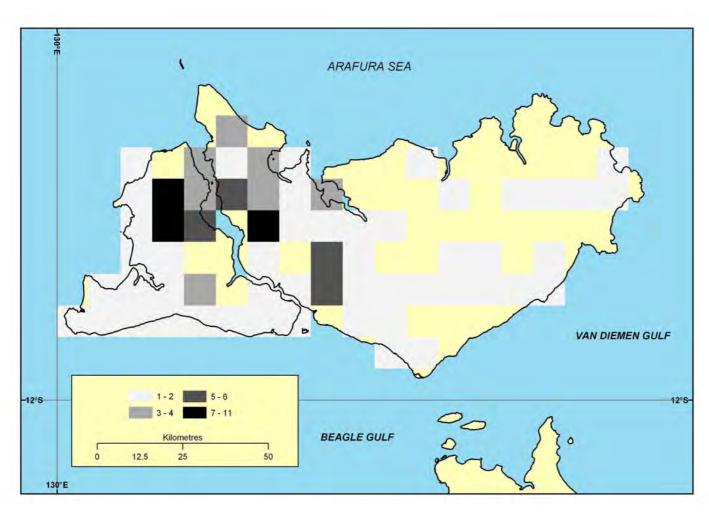


Figure 3.5. The number of listed threatened plant species (critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable) known from grid cells of 5' x 5' on the Tiwi Islands.

Twenty species (including nine NT endemic species) are listed as threatened on the NT list (one as critically endangered, eight as endangered, and 11 as vulnerable), but only one is currently listed as threatened on the national list. Additional information for every threatened plant species (other than the "data deficient" category) is given in Appendix B.

Of these 20 listed theatened plant species, 17 are not known from any conservation reserve in the Northern Territory, two are known from only one reserve (*Luisia teretifolia* from Black Jungle Conservation Reserve and *Fryecinettia excelsa* from Kakadu National Park), and one (*Cycas armstrongii*) is known from 10 conservation reserves. *Cycas armstrongii* is an unusual case, in that it is currently at least locally common, however it qualifies as threatened based on recent detailed research and modeling that demonstrates very poor recruitment in the face of prevailing fire regimes and the increasing extent of exotic pasture grasses, and consequently extensive projected decline in abundance.

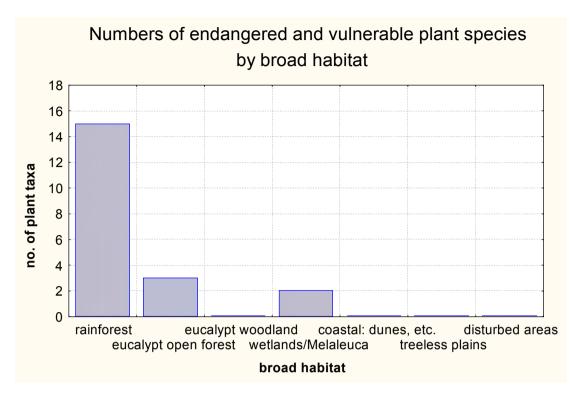
The disparity in numbers of species categorised as threatened at NT and national level is likely to be substantially reduced in the near future, as the recent comprehensive documentation of status of species in the NT (Anon 2002) can be expected to determine categorisations at national level: especially so for the seven threatened Tiwi plant species that occur only in the Northern Territory.

In addition to the 20 endangered and vulnerable Tiwi plant species, a further 44 species are listed as "data deficient". For these Tiwi plant species there is very little information available from which to assess status. With more knowledge, some of these species may be shown to be widespread and common. Alternatively, some species now known from a few locations may actually be restricted to only those locations, and an upgrading of their conservation status may be warranted. In many cases, the conservation status of Tiwi plant species may have been assumed to be secure, largely on the basis of lack of apparent threats. For species occurring in habitats or areas proposed for conversion to *Acacia mangium* plantations, this security may no longer be presumed.

The threatened plant species are concentrated particularly in the northwest of Melville Island and north of Bathurst Island (Fig. 3.5). In part this may reflect the uneven sampling (Fig. 3.2), but there is also likely to be some underlying reality to this pattern, because of the geographic patterning of rainfall and, hence, rainforests and taller eucalypt open forests.

Most of the Tiwi endangered and vulnerable plant species occur primarily in rainforests (Fig. 3.6a), with a smaller proportion in eucalypt open forests and wetland areas (including Melaleuca forests and woodlands). None occur in mangroves, coastal dunes, eucalypt woodlands or treeless plains. In part, the preponderance of rainforest species among the threatened plants is because many rainforest plants occur in only a few rainforest patches, because rainforests may be particularly susceptible to a range of threatening processes, and because rainforests in the Northern Territory have been relatively well surveyed, and hence threatened species will be more likely to be given a code other than "Data Deficient".

In contrast, most of the Tiwi *data deficient* plant species occur in wetlands (including *Melaleuca* forests and woodlands), with a more equitable spread over other environments (Fig. 3.6b). In part, this reflects the relatively meagre systematic collection in wetland environments, particularly on the Tiwi Islands.



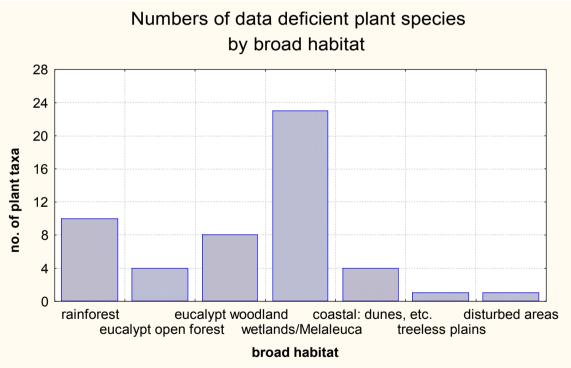
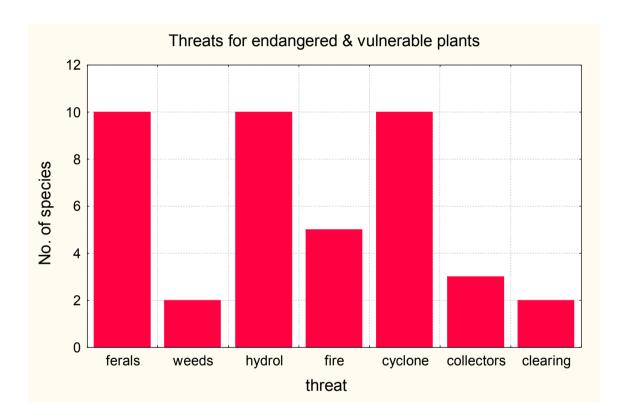


Figure 3.6. The broad habitat distribution of Tiwi Island threatened plant species. (a) endangered and vulnerable taxa; (b) data deficient taxa.

Appendix B lists the main threatening processes considered to be affecting (or likely to affect) each of the threatened plants. The threats affecting the most species are:

- changes in hydrology (largely because of the high number of threatened plants occurring in wet rainforest patches);
- feral animals (particularly pigs); and
- stochastic (chance) distrubances particularly cyclones (largely because of the relatively high number of epiphytes and species known from very few locations).

Other main threats are changed fire regimes, weeds, collectors (for orchid species) and clearing (Fig. 3.7).



**Figure 3.7.** Threatening processes listed for endangered and vulnerable plants of the Tiwi **Islands**. Note that more than one threat may be listed for any single plant species. "hydrol" = altered hydrological regimes.

The number of threatened plant taxa occurring on the Tiwi Islands is notably higher than that reported for other NT regions recently studied (Table 3.4).

Table 3.4: Comparison of the number of threatened plants on the Tiwi Islands compared with other NT regions recently assessed. nb where taxa are listed at different categories on national and NT lists, the more threatened category only is listed in this Table.

region	area	no. threate	ened plants	source	
	(km²)	endangered and/or critically endangered	vulnerable	data deficient	
Tiwi Islands	7,481	9	11	44	this report
Coomalie Shire	1,507	1	2	8	Price and Baker (2003)
Mary River catchment	8,602	0	4	2	Armstrong et al. (2002)
Arafura Swamp catchment	10,365	0	3	41	Brennan et al. (2003)
Daly Basin bioregion	20,800	0	2	4	Price et al. (2000)

In some cases, the conservation status codes given here differ from those first assigned in 2000 for the initial regulations of the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000. Under those schedules, there were two Tiwi species listed as endangered and 12 listed as vulnerable (Woinarski et al. 2000a). These changes reflect the more substantial information base available for the 2002 assessment. Species changing from the initial assessment to the current NT listing are: Elaeocarpus miegei (from endangered to critically endangered); Cerbera manghas (from vulnerable to near threatened); Cycas maconochiei (from vulnerable to least concern); Dendrobium trilamellatum, Hedyotis auricularia and Tropidia curculigoides (all from vulnerable to data deficient); Cephalomanes obscurum, Garcinia warrenii, Tarennoidea wallichii, Typhonium jonesii, Typhonium mirabile, Utricularia subulata and Xylopia D30127 Melville Island (all from unlisted to endangered); and Dendromyza reinwardtiana, Endiandra limnophila, Freycinetia excelsa and Mitrella D24710 Melville Is. (all from unlisted to vulnerable).

#### 3.6. Tiwi-endemic plants

Eleven plant taxas have been recorded nowhere else in the world other than on the Tiwi Islands (Table 3.5). A further 19 are known in the Northern Territory only from the Tiwi Islands but also occur beyond the Northern Territory, mostly in northern Queensland, New Guinea and/or Malesia.

Most of the endemic plant taxa are associated with rainforests, but there are also several endemic taxa that occur mainly in eucalypt open forests and wetland areas (Fig. 3.8). The endemic plant taxa include representatives of most life forms, including large trees (e.g. Elaeocarpus miegei), sub-shrubs (Desmodium tiwiense), small herbs (Burmannia D61177 Bathurst Island), sedges (Hypolytrum nemorum) and epiphytes (Dendrobium trilamellatum, Thrixspermum congestum, but no grasses or palms.

Of the plant species that are restricted in the NT to the Tiwi Islands but also occur beyond the NT, most are present in northern Queensland, New Guinea and/or Malesia. Such distributions link areas of relatively high rainfall. These species also include some whose distribution is now largely relictual from a presumed more extensive range during climatically more favourable periods in the past.

Note that for many other plant species, the Tiwi Islands are of major significance in that, although not endemic, a very high proportion (>50%) of their total population or known sites of occurrence occur there. Such plants include the rainforest species: Lindsaea walkerae (known only from six records in perennially wet, rainforest habitats on Melville and Bathurst Islands, and one record from eastern Arnhem Land); Nervilia peltata (known from only four locations in the Northern Territory, of which two are on the Tiwi Islands); Freycinetia percostata (known in the NT from only three sites on Bathurst Island and two from the Arafura Swamp in central Arnhem Land); Cephalomanes obscurum; Vittaria ensiformis; Melodinus australis; Mapania macrocephala (known in the NT from only one site on Bathurst Island, one site on Melville Island and one site in NE Arnhem Land); Elaeocarpus culminicola; Endospermum medullosum; Dysoxylum latifolium; Endiandra limnophila (known in the NT from many sites on the Tiwi Islands, but otherwise only from Channel Point, near Darwin); Acmena hemilampra (known in the NT from about 30 sites on the Tiwi Islands, but otherwise from only two specimens on Croker Island); Syzygium fibrosum; Luisia teretifolia (known in the NT from only 12 sites on Melville Island and three locations in the Darwin-Litchfield area); and Psychotria coelosperma. In some of these cases, the relatively high incidence of records on the Tiwi Islands may represent a collection bias, as sampling effort on the Tiwi islands is now relatively higher than many other areas on the Northern Territory mainland.

A smaller number of open forest species also have most but not all of their NT distributions on the Tiwi Islands. These include the dominant tree *Corymbia nesophila* and the herb *Zornia disticha*. Except for where any of these species are also classified as threatened, we do not deal specifically with these species here, although we recognise that the conservation management of the Tiwi Islands is highly influential in their fate.

Table 3.5. List of plant species endemic to the Tiwi Islands (a), or whose NT distribution is limited to the Tiwi Islands (b). For distributional notes, B=Bathurst Island, M=Melville Island.

FAMILY	scientific name	no. Herb. records	no. plots	habitat	distributional notes
(a) Recorded nowher	re but on the Tiwi Islands	<u>.</u>			
BURMANNIACEAE	Burmannia D61177 Bathurst Island	2	0	rainforest	В
FABACEAE	Desmodium tiwiense	7	6	eucalypt open forest	BM
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia D1547 Melville Island	12	3	eucalypt woodland	BM
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Hoya australis oramicola	4	0	rainforest	BM:
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia cowiei	1	0	wetlands	M
ANNONACEAE	Mitrella D24710 Melville Is.	9	3	rainforest	BM
APOCYNACEAE	Parsonsia D30178 Melville Island	3	31	rainforest	BM
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce D43976 retitesta	17	15	eucalypt open forest	BM
ARACEAE	Typhonium jonesii	4	0	eucalypt open forest	BM
ARACEAE	Typhonium mirabile	5	3	eucalypt open forest	M
ANNONACEAE	Xylopia D30127 Mehille Island	1	5	rainforest	BM
(b) NT distribution re	estricted to the Tiwi Islands, but	also recorde	d beyo	nd the NT	
MYRTACEAE	Acmenosperma claviflorum	14	69	rainforest	BM: Also recorded in northern Qld and Malesia
SCHIZAEACEAE	Actinostachys wagneri	1	0	rainforest	M: Also occurs in northern Qld and Malesia
ORCHIDACEAE	Calochilus caeruleus	2	0	paperbark swamps	M: Also recorded in WA, Qld and New Guinea

FAMILY	scientific name	no. Herb. records	no. plots	habitat	distributional notes	
VERBENACEAE	Clerodendrum longiflorum var. glabrum	4	6	rainforest margins	BM: This subspecies occurs also in north Qld and PNG	
LILIACEAE	Crinum venosum	1	0	paperbark swamps	M: Also recorded from Qld	
ORCHIDACEAE	Dendrobium trilamellatum	2	0	paperbark swamps	M: Also NE Qld, New Guinea	
SANTALACEAE	SANTALACEAE Dendromyza reinwardtiana		2	rainforest	BM: Also recorded from north Qld, new Guinea, Philippines and Sumatra	
ELAEOCARPACEAE	ELAEOCARPACEAE Elaeocarpus miegei		6	rainforest	BM: Also recorded in New Guinea and Malesia	
CLUSIACEAE	Garcinia warrenii	2	0	rainforest	M: Also recorded in north Qld	
RUBIACEAE	Hedyotis auricularia var. melanesica	1	2	rainforest	BM: Also recorded in north Qld	
CYPERACEAE	Hypolytrum nemorum	17	18	rainforest	BM: Also NE Qld, Polynesia, to India and Taiwan	
MENISPERMACEAE	Hypserpa decumbens	4	2	rainforest	BM: Also recorded from N&E Qld and NE NSW	
MENISPERMACEAE Hypserpa polyandra		1	1	rainforest	BM: Also recorded from NE Cape York Peninsula, SE Indonesia and New Guinea	
LAURACEAE	Litsea breviumbellata	21	66	rainforest	BM: Also recorded in north Qld	
CYPERACEAE Scleria carphiformis		3	3	treeless plains (sedgelands, <i>Melaleuca</i> woodland, swamp)	BM: Also recorded from north Qld	
LOGANIACEAE	Strychnos minor	14	50	rainforest	BM: Also recorded from north Qld to Malesia	
RUBIACEAE	Tarennoidea wallichii	7	1	rainforest	M: Also recorded from Malesia, as far north as India	

FAMILY	scientific name	no. Herb. records	no. plots	habitat	distributional notes
ORCHIDACEAE	Thrixspermum congestum	3	8	rainforest	BM: Also recorded in northern Qld and Malesia
TILIACEAE	Triumfetta repens	3	1	coastal dunes	B: Also recorded from Qld, and beyond Australia

With the exception of the Alligator Rivers Region, the Tiwi tally of endemic species is far higher than that of other NT regions that have recently been evaluated (Table 3.6).

Table 3.6. Comparison of extent of plant endemism on the Tiwi Islands compared with other sampled regions in the Top End of the Northern Territory.

region	area	no. endemic taxa		source
	(km <sup>2</sup> )	entirely	restricted in the NT,	
		restricted	but also known beyond	
			the NT	
Tiwi Islands	7,481	10	20	this report
Coomalie Shire	1,507	0	0	Price and Baker (2003)
Mary River catchment	8,602	0	0	Armstrong et al. (2002)
Arafura Swamp catchment	10,365	1	1	Brennan et al. (2003)
Daly Basin bioregion	20,800	0	1	Price et al. (2000)
Alligator Rivers Region	30,000	>40	5	Ingwersen (1995)

As with Tiwi endangered and vulnerable plants, most of the Tiwi endemic plants occur primarily in rainforest (Fig. 3.8), but four Tiwi-endemic species occur in each of eucalypt open forests and wetland environments.

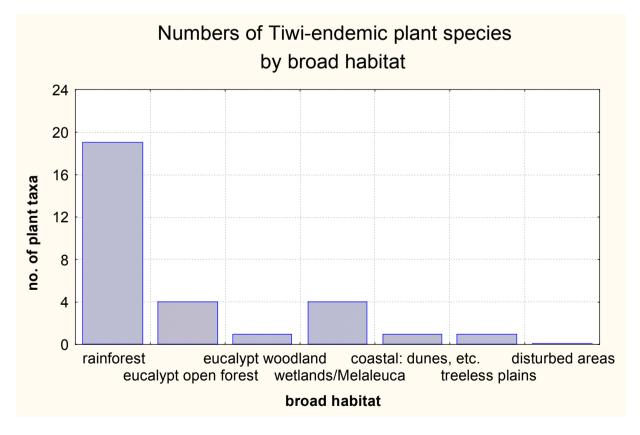


Figure 3.8. Occurrence of Tiwi endemic plant species in broad habitat types (note that this listing includes those species that occur in the NT nowehere else than on the Tiwi Islands, but also occur beyond the NT).

#### 3.7. Floristics of individual islands

There is much similarity in the plant species composition of the two islands (Appendix xx). Of the tally of 1195 plant taxa known from the Tiwi Islands, 665 taxa have been recorded on both islands, 109 have been recorded from Bathurst Island but not Melville Island, and 421 have been recorded from Melville Island but not Bathurst Island. These tallies somewhat mask the similarity between the two islands in their flora: for many of the taxa recorded from only one of the two islands, this restriction may be simply because of sampling inadequacy. For example of the 109 species recorded from Bathurst but not Melville, 65 species are in our data bases from only one record on the Tiwi Islands, and a further 39 species have only two to five records from the Tiwi Islands; of the 421 species recorded from Melville but not Bathurst Island, 140 are in our data bases from only one record on the Tiwi Islands, and a further 128 species have between two and five records only.

A better picture of the similarity in flora between the two islands is painted by the occurrence of species better represented in our data bases. Of the 52 species recorded from at least 100 sites in our data base, all are known from both islands. Of the 123 species reported from between 50 and 99 sites, all but one two species (*Sauropus ditassoides*, which has been reported from Melville, but not Bathurst) are known from both islands. Of the 137 species reported from between 20 and 49 sites, only three species are known from only one of the two islands (*Yakirra nulla* and *Diospyros cordifolia* from Melville and *Spermacoce D129311 variabilis* from Bathurst).

Table 3.7. Comparison between Bathurst and Melville Islands in the number of threatened, endemic and all plant species recorded.

island	no. of threatened species			no. endem	total no.	
	endangered vulnerable		data	entirely	endemic in	species
	& critically		deficient	endemic	the NT	
	endangered					
Bathurst	5	9	29	8	14	774
Melville	7	9	39	9	19	1086

### 3.8. Use of plants

Many plants occurring on the Tiwi Islands have great significance for the life and culture of Tiwi people. Puruntatameri *et al.* (2001) list uses for 216 plant species. These uses include foods (principally fruits and yams) and the provision of materials for cultural objects (such as ironwood *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* for pukumani poles), art (such as pandanus for weaving of mats, and ironwood for carvings), and for hunting, fishing, camping and cooking equipment. Other plants have significance as markers of seasons, or as part of the connection of people to history and place. Plants also provide the shelter and environments needed for the principal animal foods on the islands, such as hollow logs for pythons and bandicoots. All environments contain plants that have traditional uses, but eucalypt open forest and rainforest hold the most species that are traditionally used (Fig. 3.9).

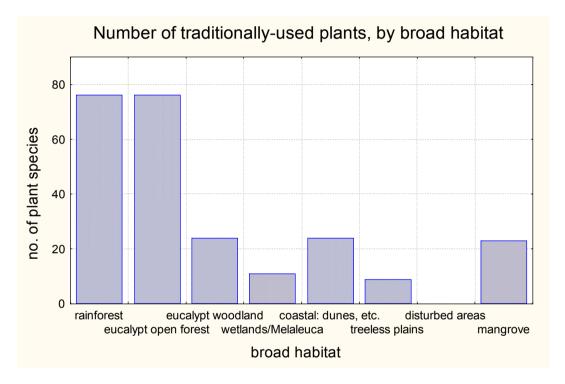


Figure 3.9. Habitat distribution of plant species traditionally used by Tiwi people. Note that some species have been allocated to more than one habitat, and that this tally crudely treats all species as equally important. Tallies are calculated from the listing of species in Puruntatameri *et al.* (2001).

Some Tiwi plant species are used commercially, and others have potential for economic use. Currently, the species of most economic significance are pandanus *Pandanus spiralis* and ironwood, which are both staples for the commercial art and craft market. There has also been some interest in the use of ironwood for high-quality timber production, and of northern cypress-pine *Callitris intratropica* for timber and oils. As for elsewhere in the Top End, there is also some economic potential for the commercial use of native fruits, principally billy goat plum (Pirlamunga) *Terminalia ferdinandiana*, but also including a range of other species such as green plum (Yankumwani) *Buchanania obovata*, *Syzygium* spp., and *Vitex* spp.

The quantity of these food resources is affected by land management. Different fire regimes have the potential to increase or decrease the amount and distribution of most of the open forest

and rainforest plants, and the amount and timing of fruit, seed and root production, with production typically favoured by relatively infrequent "cool" fires, and reduced by frequent relatively high intensity fires (Williams 1997; Woinarski *et al.* 2003). Feral pigs diminish the available fruit and yam resources in the short-term, and may also reduce the longer-term availability of these through lowering the reproductive success of some plant species. Buffalo, cattle and horses may also affect plant resource availability through trampling and degrading some environments.

## 4. SYNTHESIS OF VALUES

The Tiwi Islands is like nowhere else in the Northern Territory. It has the highest rainfall, and is at the northern extreme, closest to Asia. These characteristics, and its isolation, ensure that the Tiwi Islands support a distinctive set of environments. Compared with any similar-sized area of the Northern Territory mainland, rainforest patches are more numerous (a total of 1261 rainforest patches occur on the Tiwi Islands) and occupy a larger total area, and they are distinctly different in plant species composition to any others. The distinctive "treeless plain" vegetation is present nowhere else than on the Tiwi Islands (at least in terms of vegetation discernible at 1:1,000,000 scale). The Tiwi Islands support extensive areas of some of the best developed eucalypt forests in northern Australia. There are also substantial areas of mangroves; eucalypt woodlands; coastal beach, dune and sedgeland communities; and wetlands. While the Garig Gunak Barlu National Park on the nearby Cobourg Peninsula represents some of these environments, there is no reserved area of treeless plain, and Garig Gunak Barlu provides no, or meagre, representation of rainforests, eucalypt woodlands and *Melaleuca* open forests.

Notwithstanding historic and recent clearing for timber plantations, the Tiwi Islands retain vast areas of intact vegetation: built-up areas, plantations and other disturbed areas currently constitute only about 2% of the Islands area.

The Tiwi Islands has a rich flora, comprising at least 1068 native plant species. This includes an exceptionally high number of recognised threatened species. Twenty plant taxa are listed as Endangered or Vulnerable at the Northern Territory level, with a further 44 species listed as Data Deficient. Only three of the 20 endangered or vulnerable plant taxa are known from any conservation reserves in the Northern Territory. Many of the listed threatened plants are known from extremely few locations. Most of the threatened plants are associated with rainforests, but all main habitats hold some threatened plants. These species are threatened by a broad range of factors, particularly including feral animals (especially pigs), changes in hydrology, and stochastic (chance) factors. Weeds, changed fire regimes, collectors and clearing also threaten some species.

The Tiwi Islands flora includes an unsually high number of endemic species. Eleven plant taxa are known only from the Tiwi Islands. A further 19 taxa occur in the Northern Territory only on the Tiwi Islands, but also occur beyond the Northern Territory, typically in rainforest patches of north-east Queensland, New Guinea and/or Malesia.

Many plants on the Tiwi Islands have traditional uses, for food, manufacture of implements and craft, or for other cultural reasons.

Although more than 100 exotic plant species have been recorded from the Tiwi Islands, most landscapes remain remarkably natural and free from weeds. Nonetheless, there are some significant weed species that have been recorded on the Tiwi Islands over the last 10-20 years, and these species have the potential to expand into, and transform, extensive areas of natural vegetation.

Taken together, the vegetation and plant composition of the Tiwi Islands is clearly of outstanding significance, at both a Northern Territory and national level. Options for the management and protection of those values are considered in Part 3 of this report.

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## Appendix A. List of vascular plant species recorded from the Tiwi Islands.

Tiwi name follows Puruntatameri et al. (2001).

Sources for other records: Pur.=Puruntatameri et al. (2001); HR=number of specimen records in the NT Herbarium.

Plot-based data bases: BW=the number of sites (mostly eucalypt open forests and treeless plains) from which recorded in data bases associated with Wilson (1991); HP=the number of Herbarium plots from which recorded; RF=the number of rainforest patches from which recorded (Russell-Smith 1991); NTVM=the number of quadrats from which recorded from sampling for the Northern Territory 1: 1,000,000 vegetation map (Wilson et al. 1990); RFe=the number of sites (mostly eucalypt forest) from which recorded in data bases associated with Fensham (1990a); RFe2=the number of sites from which recorded in data bases associated with Fensham and Cowie (1998); NHT= the number of sites from which recorded in data bases associated with this report and Woinarski et al. (2000a); total quads=the sum of number of sites from which recorded in the 7 previous site-based columns.

Bath=recorded from Bathurst Island; Melv.=recorded from Melville Island.

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
MALVACEAE	Abelmoschus manihot			2			1					1	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Abelmoschus moschatus	Rani, Yirani	1	8		4			1	1		6	1	1	tuberosus
FABACEAE	Abrus precatorius	Tapirtapunga, Kulamuni	1	6		32	49			1		82	1	1	precatorius
MALVACEAE	Abutilon fraseri ##						1					1		1	
MALVACEAE	Abutilon indicum			2			2					2		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia alleniana			1								0		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia auriculiformis	Jarrikarli	1	12		61	85	6		18	23	193	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia cataractae			1								0	1		
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia crassicarpa *			2								0		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia difficilis	Jarrikarli	1	9	65	51		28	13		14	171	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia dimidiata			6	6	13		6	5			30	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia gonocarpa			7	42	8			9			59	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia holosericea	Jarrikarli	1	3		9				3		12	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia humifusa			1								0		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia lamprocarpa	Jarrikarli	1	10	8	61	6	3	118		34	230	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia latescens	Jarrikarli	1	9	45	41		1	32		12	131	1	1	

<sup>\* =</sup> non-native species; # = record requires further confirmation.; ## record not accepted here; + = record from Fensham and Cowie (1998).

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia leptocarpa	Jarrikarli	1	13		75		9	33	8	15	140	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia leptophleba ##							1				1		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia mangium *			1		1					4	5		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia mimula					3		7	1		1	12	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia multisiliqua			3		1			1			2		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia nuperrima			3		1						1	1		
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia oncinocarpa	Murinyini	1	9	59	35		23	14		4	135	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia platycarpa					2						2		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia praelongata			6		4		2			2	8	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia simsii (*)			2								0		1	native NT species, but exotic on Tiwi Islands
MIMOSACEAE	Acacia torulosa#							1				1	1		
ASTERACEAE	Acanthospermum hispidum *						1					1		1	
ACANTHACEAE	Acanthus ilicifolius			1								0		1	
AMARANTHACEAE	Achyranthes aspera			3		11	9					20	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Acmena hemilampra			25		7	28				2	37	1	1	hemilampra
MYRTACEAE	Acmenosperma claviflorum		1	14		9	58				2	69	1	1	
PTERIDACEAE	Acrostichum speciosum		1	4		5	5					10	1	1	
SCHIZAEACEAE	Actinostachys digitata			15			27					27	1	1	
SCHIZAEACEAE	Actinostachys wagneri			1								0		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Adenanthera pavonina						12					12	1	1	
PASSIFLORACEAE	Adenia heterophylla			11		29	31			6		66	1	1	australis
ADIANTACEAE	Adiantum aethiopicum						1					1		1	
ADIANTACEAE	Adiantum philippense			2		1	3					4		1	
PLUMBAGINACEAE	Aegialitis annulata		1	13		6						6	1	1	
MYRSINACEAE	Aegiceras corniculatum	Mijinga	1	7							1	1	1	1	
FABACEAE	Aeschynomene americana *			4								0		1	
ASTERACEAE	Ageratum conyzoides *			7								0	1	1	
MELIACEAE	Aglaia brownii			6			13					13		1	
MELIACEAE	Aglaia sapindina			15		15	54				4	73	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Aidia racemosa			6		1	37					38	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Albizia canescens			3		2						2		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Albizia lebbeck						6				1	7	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Albizia procera						3					3	1	1	
DROSERACEAE	Aldrovanda vesiculosa			1								0	1		
SAPINDACEAE	Allophylus cobbe			6		29	39			9		77	1	1	
POACEAE	Alloteropsis semialata			1	35	28		2	70	3		138	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
RHAMNACEAE	Alphitonia excelsa	Jikiringini	1	10	34	85	54	21	69	1	22	286	1	1	
RHAMNACEAE	Alphitonia incana			4		9						9	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Alstonia actinophylla	Palampalinga, Murrulurluka	1			7	20		1		3	31	1	1	
AMARANTHACEAE	Alternanthera dentata *			1								0	1		
FABACEAE	Alysicarpus muelleri							1	1			2		1	
FABACEAE	Alysicarpus ovalifolius *			8						13		13		1	
FABACEAE	Alysicarpus schomburgkii			4		1						1		1	
APOCYNACEAE	Alyxia spicata	Murinyini	1	13		24	39	1	1			65	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Alyxia tropica					1	1					2	1		
AMARANTHACEAE	Amaranthus leptostachyus			1								0		1	
AMARANTHACEAE	Amaranthus viridis *			3								0	1		
LYTHRACEAE	Ammannia baccifera					1						1	1		
ARACEAE	Amorphophallus galbra	Tiyoni	1	9		4	33			3		40	1	1	
ARACEAE	Amorphophallus paeoniifolius	Wupwarna	1	6		3	6					9	1	1	
VITACEAE	Ampelocissus acetosa	Turukwanga	1	4	2	58	43		50	20		173	1	1	
VITACEAE	Ampelocissus frutescens	Ŭ		2						3		3		1	
THELYPTERIDACEAE	Ampelopteris prolifera						4					4	1	1	
LORANTHACEAE	Amyema benthamii			1			2					2		1	
LORANTHACEAE	Amyema haematodes			5			2					2	1	1	
LORANTHACEAE	Amyema mackayensis			2								0		1	cycnei-sinus
LORANTHACEAE	Amyema villiflora			4		2						2	1	1	villiflora
ANACARDIACEAE	Anacardium occidentale *	Kuruti	1	2								0	1	1	
ACANTHACEAE	Andrographis paniculata *			2								0		1	
POACEAE	Andropogon gayanus *			1								0		1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Aniseia martinicensis			3								0	1	1	
LAMIACEAE	Anisomeles malabarica			4				1				1	1	1	
MORACEAE	Antiaris toxicaria			3		2	11					13	1	1	macrophylla
EUPHORBIACEAE	Antidesma ghesaembilla	Alimpunga	1	9		11	21	2	4	16		54	1	1	
FABACEAE	Aphyllodium schindleri	, <u> </u>		4		1						1	1	1	
POACEAE	Aristida holathera			5	36	23		2	10	1		72	1	1	holathera, latifolia
POACEAE	Aristida macroclada		1	9		10	1		6	2		18	1	1	macroclada
POACEAE	Aristida schultzii ##		1					1				1		1	
POACEAE	Aristida superpendens		1	1		1	Ì					1	Ì	1	
CYPERACEAE	Arthrostylis aphylla		1					1		1		2		1	
MORACEAE	Artocarpus glaucus		1	3		2	23					25	1	1	
ACANTHACEAE	Asystasia gangetica *		1	1	1			1		1		0		1	cultivated
PITTOSPORACEAE	Auranticarpa melanosperma		1	1		1	1					1		1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
FABACEAE	Austrodolichos errabundus			1		5						5	1		
OXALIDACEAE	Averrhoa carambola *			1								0		1	cultivated
VERBENACEAE	Avicennia marina	Artama	1	8		14					3	17	1	1	eucalyptifolia
POACEAE	Axonopus compressus *			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Bambusa arnhemica	Kayartirri	1	1			5			3		8		1	
PROTEACEAE	Banksia dentata	Mayili, Mayilinga	1	5	22	45		6	3		21	97	1	1	
LECYTHIDACEAE	Barringtonia acutangula						2					2		1	acutangulata
LECYTHIDACEAE	Barringtonia asiatica			5		2						2	1	1	<u> </u>
BATACEAE	Batis argillicola	Purrawurrika	1	6		1						1	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Bauhinia acuminata *			3								0		1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Bauhinia binata			3		1	1					2		1	
CYPERACEAE	Baumea rubiginosa			4		3						3	1		
TILIACEAE	Berrya javanica			2		1	5					6	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Bidens bipinnata *			5		4				4		8	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Bidens pilosa *			5		2						2	1	1	
BLECHNACEAE	Blechnum indicum			7		2	24					26	1	1	
BLECHNACEAE	Blechnum orientale	Mirrijikurlini	1	8		18	39					57	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Blumea diffusa	_							1			1		1	
ASTERACEAE	Blumea saxatilis			5		6				1		7	1	1	
HYDROCHARITACEAE	Blyxa aubertii			2								0	1	1	echinosperma
NYCTAGINACEAE	Boerhavia burbidgeana			1								0		1	•
NYCTAGINACEAE	Boerhavia coccinea			1						2		2		1	
NYCTAGINACEAE	Boerhavia dominii			2		1						1		1	
NYCTAGINACEAE	Boerhavia gardneri			1								0		1	
NYCTAGINACEAE	Boerhavia schomburgkiana			2						1		1	1	1	
BOMBACACEAE	Bombax ceiba	Tunkuwanya, Wurringa, Reili	1	3		8	37				1	46	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Bonamia brevifolia			1								0		1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Bonamia media								1			1		1	media
CONVOLVULACEAE	Bonamia pannosa					1						1	1	1	
RUTACEAE	Boronia lanceolata			9		2			5			7	1	1	
POACEAE	Bothriochloa bladhii			7		5				2		7	1	1	bladhii
POACEAE	Bothriochloa pertusa*			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Brachyachne ambigua			1		1				4		5	1	1	
POACEAE	Brachyachne convergens			4						7		7	1	1	
POACEAE	Brachyachne tenella					1			1			2	1		

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STERCULIACEAE	Brachychiton diversifolius	Marlikirringa	1	6		32			5	3	11	51	1	1	diversifolius
STERCULIACEAE	Brachychiton megaphyllus	Ngirniyani	1	5		27		7	27	2	1	64	1	1	includes previous records of <i>B.</i> paradoxus
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Brachystelma glabriflorum	Jaliwaki, Jaliwak	1	3								0		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Breynia cernua			11		54	52		25	1		132	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Bridelia tomentosa			5		35	48	1	9	15	1	109	1	1	
SIMAROUBACEAE	Brucea javanica			1			2					2		1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Bruguiera exaristata	Nurninga	1	11		6					2	8	1	1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Bruguiera gymnorrhiza	Timinipulika, Murrunga	1	9		3					3	6	1	1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Bruguiera parviflora	Nurninga	1	6		5						5	1	1	
ACANTHACEAE	Brunoniella acaulis			4								0	1	1	acaulis
ACANTHACEAE	Brunoniella australis			1			4			1		5	1	1	
ACANTHACEAE	Brunoniella linearifolia			2		13						13	1	1	
ANACARDIACEAE	Buchanania arborescens		1	4		12	48	1			2	63	1	1	
ANACARDIACEAE	Buchanania obovata	Yankumwani	1	6	44	119		27	98	1	6	295	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Buchnera asperata			1		3						3	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Buchnera ciliata			1								0	1		
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Buchnera gracilis			3		19			20			39	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Buchnera linearis			7	21	9		5	29			64	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Buchnera tetragona			1		1						1		1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Buchnera urticifolia			2								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Bulbostylis barbata			4		21				1		22	1	1	
BURMANNIACEAE	Burmannia coelestis			2								0	1		
BURMANNIACEAE	Burmannia D61177 Bathurst Island			2								0	1		
BURMANNIACEAE	Burmannia juncea			7	1	3			6			10	1	1	
BYBLIDACEAE	Byblis aquatica					3						3	1		
BYBLIDACEAE	Byblis liniflora			2		2						2	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Caesalpinia bonduc			3		2	5			1		8		1	
FABACEAE	Cajanus scarabaeoides			2		3						3	1	1	
PORTULACACEAE	Calandrinia gracilis			2								0		1	
PORTULACACEAE	Calandrinia pumila			2		1						1	1		
VERBENACEAE	Callicarpa candicans			2			5					5	1	1	
CUPRESSACEAE	Callitris intratropica	Karntirrkani	1	2		9	3	2	6		5	25	1	1	

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ORCHIDACEAE	Calochilus caeruleus			2								0		1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Calochilus holtzei			6								0		1	
CLUSIACEAE	Calophyllum inophyllum	Taruwuka	1	6		5	6					11	1	1	
CLUSIACEAE	Calophyllum sil					1	1					2		1	
CLUSIACEAE	Calophyllum soulattri	Pampiyaka	1	24		21	67				7	95	1	1	
FABACEAE	Calopogonium mucunoides *			7								0		1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Calotropis gigantea *			1								0		1	
MYRTACEAE	Calytrix achaeta	Murinyini	1	3		3			3			6	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Calytrix arborescens			1								0		1	
MYRTACEAE	Calytrix brownii					2						2		1	
MYRTACEAE	Calytrix exstipulata	Murinyini	1	7	29	17		3	10		5	64	1	1	
BOMBACACEAE	Camptostemon schultzii	Jinjinga, Patialinga, Tungkwuka	1	4		1					1	2	1	1	
BURSERACEAE	Canarium australianum	Wilika	1	2		40	60	1	5	4	14	124	1	1	
FABACEAE	Canavalia cathartica			1								0	1		
FABACEAE	Canavalia papuana			3		1	5			2		8		1	
FABACEAE	Canavalia rosea	Tingatiyanganila	1	9		9						9	1	1	
OPILIACEAE	Cansjera leptostachya			1		1	8					9		1	
CAPPARACEAE	Capparis jacobsii					3	1					4		1	
CAPPARACEAE	Capparis sepiaria		1	5		20	30			6		56	1	1	
CAPPARACEAE	Capparis umbonata			6		2						2	1	1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Carallia brachiata	Taruwuka	1	13		17	72	1			4	94	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Carissa lanceolata						1					1		1	
ARECACEAE	Carpentaria acuminata	Jora, Yijora	1			7	43				2	52	1	1	
COMMELINACEAE	Cartonema parviflorum			1	4	4			10			18	1	1	
COMMELINACEAE	Cartonema spicatum			2	4	12		2	16			34	1	1	
COMMELINACEAE	Cartonema trigonospermum					1						1	1		
LAURACEAE	Cassytha capillaris			2		14						14	1	1	
LAURACEAE	Cassytha filiformis	Ariwurrini	1	6	10	19	11	9	4	1		54	1	1	
CASUARINACEAE	Casuarina equisetifolia	Munkarajinga, Munkuraji	1	3		14					4	18	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Catharanthus roseus *			1								0		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Cathormion umbellatum		1	2		2	3					5	1	1	moniliforme
VITACEAE	Cayratia maritima			1		18	5					23	1	1	
VITACEAE	Cayratia trifolia			5		6	2		9	10		27	1	1	

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ULMACEAE	Celtis philippensis			3		20	27					47	1	1	
POACEAE	Cenchrus brownii *			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Cenchrus echinatus *			6						1		1	1	1	
POACEAE	Cenchrus elymoides			3		6		1	4			11	1	1	brevisetosus
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Centranthera cochinchinensis			2		8						8	1	1	
CENTROLEPIDACEAE	Centrolepis exserta			1		2						2	1	1	
FABACEAE	Centrosema molle *			3								0		1	
HYMENOPHYLLACEAE	Cephalomanes obscurum			7			2					2		1	
PARKERIACEAE	Ceratopteris thalictroides			3		1						1	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Cerbera manghas					1						1	1		
APOCYNACEAE	Cerbera odollam *			1								0		1	cultivated
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Ceriops australis			7		6						6		1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Ceriops decandra			7		3						3	1	1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Ceriops tagal	Marrakali, Tumulupuluka	1	6		4					1	5	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Chamaecrista absus					2						2	1	1	absus
CAESALPINIACEAE	Chamaecrista mimosoides			2	5	3		1	29			38	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Chamaecrista nigricans					1						1		1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Chamaecrista nomame			2		13						13	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Chamaecrista rotundifolia *			1								0		1	
ADIANTACEAE	Cheilanthes caudata					1			1			2	1	1	
ADIANTACEAE	Cheilanthes contigua			5		20						20	1	1	
ADIANTACEAE	Cheilanthes fragillima			3		4						4	1	1	
ADIANTACEAE	Cheilanthes nitida			1		1						1	1	1	
ADIANTACEAE	Cheilanthes pumilio			3								0	1	1	
ADIANTACEAE	Cheilanthes tenuifolia			5	2	2		12	49			65	1	1	
POACEAE	Chloris inflata *			7								0	1	1	
POACEAE	Chloris lobata			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Chloris pilosa *			3								0	1	1	
POACEAE	Chloris pumilio ##					1						1		1	probably C. lobata
LILIACEAE	Chlorophytum laxum			1		8						8	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Choriceras tricorne	Tinginga	1	16		25	6	6	15			52	1	1	
POACEAE	Chrysopogon elongatus					2						2		1	
POACEAE	Chrysopogon fallax	Pitarika	1	4	5	29		27	72	6		139	1	1	
POACEAE	Chrysopogon filipes			6		2						2	1	1	
POACEAE	Chrysopogon latifolius			1		18		1				19	1	1	
POACEAE	Chrysopogon oliganthus			3		8						8	1	1	
POACEAE	Chrysopogon pallidus					1						1		1	

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VITACEAE	Cissus adnata			1		8	23			1		32	1	1	
VITACEAE	Cissus reniformis			3		17	22					39	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Claoxylon tenerifolium			4		4	9					13	1	1	
RANUNCULACEAE	Clematis pickeringii			2		3	15					18	1	1	
CAPPARACEAE	Cleome viscosa			2						3		3		1	
VERBENACEAE	Clerodendrum costatum		1	7		21	48			9		78	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Clerodendrum floribundum		1	8		14		7	5			26	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Clerodendrum inerme			1		1	1					2		1	
VERBENACEAE	Clerodendrum longiflorum			4		5					1	6	1	1	glabrum
FABACEAE	Clitoria australis			11		5			13			18	1	1	
FABACEAE	Clitoria ternatea *			4								0	1	1	
CUCURBITACEAE	Coccinia grandis						4					4	1	1	
BIXACEAE	Cochlospermum fraseri	Pijuruwupirninga , Malupunyini	1	3		11			6		3	20	1	1	fraseri
BIXACEAE	Cochlospermum gillivraei	Pijuruwupirninga , Malupunyini	1	3								0		1	
ARECACEAE	Cocos nucifera *	Purumatingurru puwa, Alupwa	1			1						1		1	
BORAGINACEAE	Coldenia procumbens			1								0		1	
RHAMNACEAE	Colubrina asiatica			1								0		1	
COMMELINACEAE	Commelina agrostophylla					1				4		5		1	
COMMELINACEAE	Commelina ensifolia			7		15			5			20	1	1	
TILIACEAE	Corchorus aestuans			5		3				3		6		1	
BORAGINACEAE	Cordia dichotoma	Patinga	1	2		1	5			2		8	1	1	
BORAGINACEAE	Cordia subcordata			7		4	4					8	1	11	
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia bella	Wuranungaping ala, Pintampunga	1			8			5		6	19	1	1	includes former records of Eucalyptus papuana
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia bleeseri	Tuwaninga	1	5		24		9	24		33	90	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia dichromophloia										1	1		1	
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia disjuncta	Wurritjinga	1	3	8	10		2	27		17	64	1	1	includes former records of Eucalyptus confertiflora
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia foelscheana	Pintampunga	1	3		3					11	14	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia grandifolia	Pintampunga	1	5	4				10		2	16	1	1	grandifolia, longa

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MYRTACEAE	Corymbia latifolia	Mintalima, Kiripayi	1	12	1	8		1	18	2	16	46	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia nesophila	Wurringilaka	1	22	41	76		36	78		181	412	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia papillosa			2		6					2	8	1		papillosa
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia polycarpa	Wurringilaka	1	5	4	27		7	3	4	18	63	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia polysciada			12		25		2	1	3	21	52	1	1	includes former records of Eucalyptus clavigera
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia porrecta			6	7	1			4		6	18	1	1	_
MYRTACEAE	Corymbia ptychocarpa	Pawlika	1	9	15	25		6	4		9	59	1	1	
LILIACEAE	Corynotheca lateriflora			1								0	1		
LILIACEAE	Crinum angustifolium	Aligirryaka	1	4		5				2		7	1	1	
LILIACEAE	Crinum uniflorum			2								0		1	
LILIACEAE	Crinum venosum			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Crosslandia setifolia			2		3						3	1	1	
FABACEAE	Crotalaria brevis			2		4						4	1	1	
FABACEAE	Crotalaria calycina					1						1	1		
FABACEAE	Crotalaria goreensis *			8								0	1	1	
FABACEAE	Crotalaria medicaginea			5		8		1	27	1		37	1	1	
FABACEAE	Crotalaria montana			2		16				1		17	1	1	
FABACEAE	Crotalaria pallida *			3								0		1	obovata
FABACEAE	Crotalaria sessiliflora			1								0	1		anthylloides
EUPHORBIACEAE	Croton argyratus			1		1	8					9		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Croton arnhemicus			2		2	18					20	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Croton byrnesii			1								0		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Croton habrophyllus			6		23	37				1	61	1	1	
LAURACEAE	Cryptocarya cunninghamii			4		10	49				2	61	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Cryptostegia madagascariensis *			3								0		1	glaberrima, madagascariensis
CUCURBITACEAE	Cucumis melo			1								0		1	
SAPINDACEAE	Cupaniopsis anacardioides			4		20	45					65	1	1	
LILIACEAE	Curculigo ensifolia			1								0		1	
ZINGIBERACEAE	Curcuma australasica			7		12	29		8			49	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Cyanthillium cinereum			7		7	4	1	4			16	1	1	
ANNONACEAE	Cyathostemma glabrum			1		1	4					5	1	1	
CYCADACEAE	Cycas armstrongii	Minta, Kwaka	1	5	2	53		16	61	2	57	191	1	1	
CYCADACEAE	Cycas maconochiei			2		4					17	21	1	1	maconochiei

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FABACEAE	Cyclocarpa stellaris			3		6			1			7	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Cyclophyllum schultzii			11		5	18					23	1	1	angustifolium
THELYPTERIDACEAE	Cyclosorus interruptus			1		1	2					3	1	1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Cymbidium canaliculatum	Japartinga, Parlampalinga	1	1								0		1	
POACEAE	Cymbopogon bombycinus					5						5		1	
POACEAE	Cymbopogon procerus	Wupwunga	1	3		6			6			12	1	1	
POACEAE	Cymbopogon refractus			2		8						8		1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Cynanchum carnosum			6		14	8			1		23	1	1	
POACEAE	Cynodon dactylon *			3		6		1				7	1	1	
POACEAE	Cynodon radiatus *			10		1				4		5	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus angustatus			1		1						1	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus aquatilis			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus brevifolius *			2								0	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus compactus ##								1			1		1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus compressus *			1								0	1		
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus concinnus					1				2		3	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus conicus			6		3						3	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus cristulatus			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus cuspidatus			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus haspan			3		8				1		9	1	1	juncoides
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus iria			2								0	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus javanicus			4		10	3		1			14	1	1	armstrongii
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus nervulosus					1						1		1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus orgadophilus			1		4						4	1		
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus paniceus			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus pedunculatus			7		3						3	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus polystachyos			3		2						2	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus pulchellus			3		11		3	2			16	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus pumilus			1								0	1		
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus rotundus *			3						2		2	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus scariosus			1		1						1		1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus sesquiflorus *			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus sphacelatus *			8		1						1	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus sporobolus			2		2						2	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus zollingeri			2		3						3	1	1	
POACEAE	Dactyloctenium aegyptium *			11						3		3	1	1	
POACEAE	Dactyloctenium radulans		İ	1	İ	1						1	İ	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
FABACEAE	Dalbergia candenatensis			8			3					3	1	1	
FABACEAE	Dalbergia sissoo *			2								0	1		
RESTIONACEAE	Dapsilanthus elatior			7		3						3	1	1	
RESTIONACEAE	Dapsilanthus ramosus		1	3		3						3	1	1	
RESTIONACEAE	Dapsilanthus spathaceus		1	4	13	19		4				36	1	1	
LORANTHACEAE	Decaisnina petiolata			11		7	11					18	1	1	petiolata
LORANTHACEAE	Decaisnina signata					1						1	1		
ORCHIDACEAE	Dendrobium affine			4		4	23					27	1	1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Dendrobium canaliculatum			3		1						1	1	1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Dendrobium trilamellatum			2								0		1	
SANTALACEAE	Dendromyza reinwardtiana			7		2						2	1	1	
LORANTHACEAE	Dendrophthoe glabrescens			1		2						2	1	1	
LORANTHACEAE	Dendrophthoe odontocalyx			6		2						2	1	1	
CELASTRACEAE	Denhamia obscura	Yirimunukaminni	1	7		32	48	1	2	1	3	87	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Dentella dioeca			1								0	1		
RUBIACEAE	Dentella repens			1								0	1		
FABACEAE	Derris trifoliata			4		3	1					4	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Desmanthus virgatus*			1								0	1		
FABACEAE	Desmodium brownii			3	5	5			7	6		23	1	1	
FABACEAE	Desmodium glareosum					6						6	1		
FABACEAE	Desmodium heterocarpon			3		2						2		1	strigosum
FABACEAE	Desmodium pullenii			5		15						15	1	1	
FABACEAE	Desmodium pycnotrichum			3	11	20			81	6		118	1	1	
FABACEAE	Desmodium scorpiurus*+											0		1	
FABACEAE	Desmodium tiwiense			7		6						6	1	1	
FABACEAE	Desmodium tortuosum*			5								0	1	1	
FABACEAE	Desmodium trichostachyum			3		10			3	7		20	1	1	
FABACEAE	Desmodium triflorum*			5								0	1	1	
ANNONACEAE	Desmos wardianus						20					20	1	1	
LILIACEAE	Dianella longifolia			1		2						2	1	1	longifolia
LILIACEAE	Dianella odorata			7		24	12		5			41	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Dichrostachys spicata ##						1					1		1	
GLEICHENIACEAE	Dicranopteris linearis			14		22	53					75	1	1	linearis
ORCHIDACEAE	Didymoplexis pallens			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Digitaria bicornis *			2		1						1		1	
POACEAE	Digitaria brownii			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Digitaria ciliaris *			3	4	1						5	1	1	
POACEAE	Digitaria ctenantha			3		2						2		1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
POACEAE	Digitaria gibbosa			2		14			6			20	1	1	
POACEAE	Digitaria longiflora			1		1						1	1	1	
POACEAE	Dimeria acinaciformis			1		1						1		1	
POACEAE	Dimeria chloridiformis			3		3						3	1	1	
POACEAE	Dimeria ornithopoda			1		2						2	1	1	
DIOSCOREACEAE	Dioscorea alata *	Muranga	1	1								0		1	
DIOSCOREACEAE	Dioscorea bulbifera	Kurlama	1	4		21	16		4	2		43	1	1	
DIOSCOREACEAE	Dioscorea transversa	Muranga, Murani	1	9		32	50	1	7	9		99	1	1	
EBENACEAE	Diospyros calycantha			9		8	50					58	1	1	
EBENACEAE	Diospyros compacta			7		13	43					56	1	1	
EBENACEAE	Diospyros cordifolia			6		11	9					20		1	
EBENACEAE	Diospyros humilis						2					2		1	
EBENACEAE	Diospyros littorea		1	10		3	7				2	12	1	1	
EBENACEAE	Diospyros maritima			8		22	34					56	1	1	
LORANTHACEAE	Diplatia furcata			1		1						1	1		
CUCURBITACEAE	Diplocyclos palmatus						1					1	1		
ORCHIDACEAE	Dipodium stenocheilum			10			2					2	1	1	
SAPINDACEAE	Distichostemon arnhemicus			1								0		1	
SAPINDACEAE	Distichostemon hispidulus			4	69	24	1	6	15			115	1	1	
SAPINDACEAE	Dodonaea lanceolata	Mirinyini	1	1								0		1	
SAPINDACEAE	Dodonaea platyptera					1	4					5		1	
BIGNONIACEAE	Dolichandrone filiformis			1		6		1				7	1	1	
DROSERACEAE	Drosera brevicornis					1						1	1		
DROSERACEAE	Drosera burmanni			2		6						6	1	1	
DROSERACEAE	Drosera darwinensis					6						6	1	1	
DROSERACEAE	Drosera dilatato-petiolaris			2								0		1	
DROSERACEAE	Drosera falconeri			3		2						2	1	1	
DROSERACEAE	Drosera fulva					1						1		1	
DROSERACEAE	Drosera indica			2		1			3			4	1	1	
DROSERACEAE	Drosera petiolaris			13	65	4			39			108	1	1	
POLYPODIACEAE	Drynaria quercifolia	Jurntuma, Waluminikima	1	4		12	45					57	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Drypetes deplanchei	Karpilitu	1	7		52	53		1	2	6	114	1	1	
FABACEAE	Dunbaria rotundifolia			1								0	1		
FABACEAE	Dunbaria singuliflora			3		1			1			2	1	1	
MELIACEAE	Dysoxylum acutangulum	Tuwuluwunga	1	5		12	43				2	57	1	1	foveolatum
MELIACEAE	Dysoxylum latifolium			5		5	39				1	45	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
POACEAE	Echinochloa colona *			1						14		14		1	
POACEAE	Echinochloa polystachya *			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Ectrosia agrostoides			4					4			4		1	
POACEAE	Ectrosia leporina			2		5						5	1	1	
POACEAE	Ectrosia schultzii			1	1							1		1	
ELAEOCARPACEAE	Elaeocarpus angustifolius			2			31					31	1	1	
ELAEOCARPACEAE	Elaeocarpus arnhemicus			8		9	39		1			49	1	1	
ELAEOCARPACEAE	Elaeocarpus culminicola			9		11	46				2	59	1	1	
ELAEOCARPACEAE	Elaeocarpus miegei			1			6					6	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis dulcis		1	1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis geniculata			3		1						1	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis nuda			1					1			1		1	
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis ochrostachys			5		1						1	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis setifolia			1		1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis sphacelata					3						3		1	
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis spiralis			2		2						2	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis sundaica			1								0	1		
ASTERACEAE	Elephantopus scaber			4		11	7		2			20	1	1	
POACEAE	Eleusine indica *			9								0	1	1	
MYRSINACEAE	Embelia curvinervia						13					13	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Emilia sonchifolia *			6		2	1					3	1	1	
LAURACEAE	Endiandra limnophila			5		5	19					24	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Endospermum medullosum			3		1	27					28	1	1	
HYDROCHARITACEAE	Enhalus acoroides			2								0		1	
MIMOSACEAE	Entada rheedii			2			1					1		1	
ARACEAE	Epipremnum amplissimum			6		4	21					25	1	1	
POACEAE	Eragrostis amabilis *			2								0	1	1	
POACEAE	Eragrostis concinna			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Eragrostis cumingii			3	45	22			32	4		103	1	1	
POACEAE	Eragrostis pilosa *			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Eragrostis pubescens			5		8		3				11	1	1	
POACEAE	Eragrostis schultzii			3		2			9			11	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne agrostidea			3	1	2						3	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne armittii ##				2			1	9			12	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne avenacea			12	102	64		24	95			285	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne bleeseri			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Eriachne burkittii			10	54	40		13	47	3		157	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne capillaris			1		1						1	1		

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
POACEAE	Eriachne ciliata			4	24	5		2				31	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne filiformis			1								0	1		
POACEAE	Eriachne minuta			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Eriachne obtusa			1	57	4			20			81	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne pallescens			8		15		1				16	1	1	pallescens
POACEAE	Eriachne pulchella ##							1				1		1	
POACEAE	Eriachne schultziana			1		7						7	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne semiciliata			1		2						2	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne squarrosa ##				41				36			77		1	records probably referrable to either <i>E. stipacea</i> or <i>E. schultziana</i>
POACEAE	Eriachne stipacea			4		17						17	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriachne sulcata			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Eriachne triseta			7	53	120		24	113	17		327	1	1	
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon australe			7								0	1	1	
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon cinereum			1								0	1		
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon fistulosum			6		5						5	1	1	
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon pusillum			2		1						1	1	1	
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon schultzii			1								0		1	
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon setaceum			2		4						4	1	1	
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon spectabile			1								0	1		
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon tortuosum			1								0	1		
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon willdenovianum			19		17						17	1	1	
POACEAE	Eriochloa decumbens			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Eriochloa procera			2						1		1	1	1	
FABACEAE	Eriosema chinense	Wakajini, Pirlumataka, Munkwarti	1	10	16	19			30			65	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Erycibe coccinea			1		7	57					64	1	1	
FABACEAE	Erythrina vespertilio	Yirrikarluwuni	1			4	3		1			8	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Erythrophleum chlorostachys	Kartukuni, Pijitinga, Tumpurama	1	2	5	85		17	69	3	108	287	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Eucalyptus alba	Pintampunga	1	3		6					7	13	1	1	australasica
MYRTACEAE	Eucalyptus bigalerita	Tuwaninga	1	7		3		1			3	7	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
MYRTACEAE	Eucalyptus miniata	Timirraringa, Mantingirraga, Mantiyurlaka	1	5	11	97		35	91		175	409	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Eucalyptus oligantha	Mantipungala	1	10		13		4	9	5	12	43	1	1	oligantha
MYRTACEAE	Eucalyptus tectifica										1	1	1		
MYRTACEAE	Eucalyptus tetrodonta	Jukwartirringa, Jukwaliti	1	4	33	106		35	75		182	431	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Eucalyptus tintinnans	Tuwaninga	1					1	1	2		4		1	
POACEAE	Eulalia annua	•		1								0		1	
POACEAE	Eulalia mackinlayi			5	45	39		1	60			145	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia atoto			8								0	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia heterophylla *			8								0	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia hirta *			11		1						1	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia mitchelliana					3						3		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia schizolepis					1						1	1		
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia schultzii			2		8			4	3		15	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia vachellii			10	3	17		1	21	10		52	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Evolvulus alsinoides			2		6			2	1		9	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Evolvulus nummularis *			6								0	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Excoecaria agallocha			2								0	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Excoecaria ovalis	Artama	1	5		2						2		1	
SANTALACEAE	Exocarpos latifolius	Murinyini	1	8		67	62	5	5	6	2	147	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Fagraea racemosa	Turukwanga	1	15		18	62				3	83	1	1	
MORACEAE	Ficus benjamina	Jawarri	1	6		1	7					8	1	1	benjamina
MORACEAE	Ficus hispida			3		1	17					18	1	1	hispida
MORACEAE	Ficus opposita		1	2		20	3	1	7	1	2	34	1	1	indecora
MORACEAE	Ficus platypoda						2					2		1	
MORACEAE	Ficus racemosa						1	1				2		1	racemosa
MORACEAE	Ficus scobina		1	4		2	25				1	28	1	1	
MORACEAE	Ficus virens	Jawarri	1	2		10	42				1	53	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis A23005 Darwin			2		4						4	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis acicularis			3		4			2	3		9	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis acuminata			1		2			8			10	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis bisumbellata			1		1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis cymosa			4		7						7	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis densa					2			9			11	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis depauperata					1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis dichotoma			1		2						2		1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis dictyocolea			1		2						2	1		
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis ferruginea			2		7						7	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis furva			1		5			3			8	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis lanceolata			5		4						4	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis littoralis			1								0	1		littoralis
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis macassarensis			3		2						2	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis macrantha			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis microcarya					1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis nutans			6		11						11	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis ovata					1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis pachyptera			1		1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis pallida			1		3			6			9		1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis pauciflora			4		29	1					30	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis pilifera			2		6			2			8	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis polytrichoides			2								0	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis pterygosperma			6		11			1			12	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis pubisquama			1								0	1		
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis rara			2		1						1		1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis recta			5		7			2			9	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis schoenoides			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis schultzii								3			3		1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis sericea			4		2						2	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis simplex			4		5			14			19	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis squarrulosa			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis subaristata			1								0	1		
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis trachycarya			1								0		1	
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis xyridis					2						2		1	
FLACOURTIACEAE	Flacourtia territorialis					3	5					8	1	1	
FLAGELLARIACEAE	Flagellaria indica	Mawunkati, Mawunkatinga	1	8		50	99					149	1	1	
FABACEAE	Flemingia D39269 sericea			10		11						11	1	1	
FABACEAE	Flemingia involucrata			1		1			2			3	1	1	
FABACEAE	Flemingia lineata			6		1			1			2	1	1	
FABACEAE	Flemingia parviflora			9	13	61			103	1		178	1	1	
FABACEAE	Flemingia pauciflora					1						1		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Flueggea virosa	Parntirringa	1	9		43	35	3		14		95	1	1	melanthesoides
PANDANACEAE	Freycinetia excelsa			3		1						0	1	1	
PANDANACEAE	Freycinetia percostata			1		1	2					2	1		

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
CYPERACEAE	Fuirena ciliaris			2		4						4	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Fuirena umbellata					2						2		1	
FABACEAE	Galactia megalophylla					3						3	1	1	
FABACEAE	Galactia tenuiflora			5	5	28			40			73	1	1	
SAPINDACEAE	Ganophyllum falcatum					3	23					26	1	1	
CLUSIACEAE	Garcinia warrenii			2								0		1	
RUBIACEAE	Gardenia megasperma	Yimunga	1	5	11	16		6	23	2	2	60	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Gardenia schwarzii			6		12					7	19	1	1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Geodorum neocaledonicum			8		3	11		1			15	1	1	
POACEAE	Germainia grandiflora			6	8	30		2	2			42	1	1	
POACEAE	Germainia truncatiglumis			2		10						10	1	1	
MOLLUGINACEAE	Glinus oppositifolius			2		1						1	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Glochidion apodogynum						4		4			8		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Glochidion xerocarpum			9		29	41			17		87	1	1	
FABACEAE	Glycine hirticaulis			1								0		1	
RUTACEAE	Glycosmis trifoliata			12		16	53					69	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Gmelina arborea *			2								0	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Gmelina schlechteri	Arluntunga	1	4		22	63				4	89	1	1	
AMARANTHACEAE	Gomphrena celosioides *	Puluma	1	5								0	1	1	
AMARANTHACEAE	Gomphrena flaccida			2		1		1				2		1	
HALORAGACEAE	Gonocarpus chinensis					1						1		1	chinensis
HALORAGACEAE	Gonocarpus leptothecus			4		5		1				6	1	1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia coronopifolia			1		1						1	1		
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia D1547 Melville Island			12		3						3	1	1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia D58281				4							4		1	ID uncertain; may refer to another listed species
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia hispida #					<u> </u>		1				1		1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia holtzeana			8	10	10			18	2		40	1	1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia leiosperma			1	9	8			30			47	1	1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia pilosa			2		2						2	1	1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia porphyrea			2		3				2		5	1	1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia pumilio			3					4			4	1	1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia purpurascens			4						2		2		1	
GOODENIACEAE	Goodenia symonii			1		2						2		1	
MALVACEAE	Gossypium hirsutum *	Alabanjar	1	2						1		1		1	
PROTEACEAE	Grevillea angulata #							1				1	1		

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
PROTEACEAE	Grevillea decurrens			8		45		1	45		18	109	1	1	
PROTEACEAE	Grevillea dimidiata							27				27	1	1	
PROTEACEAE	Grevillea dryandri			2		5		4	8			17	1	1	dryandri
PROTEACEAE	Grevillea heliosperma			3	23	6		20	1		9	59	1	1	
PROTEACEAE	Grevillea parallela			4					1			1		1	
PROTEACEAE	Grevillea pleuricaulis			10	7	38		3	7		2	57	1	1	some former records listed as <i>G. goodii</i>
PROTEACEAE	Grevillea pteridifolia	Yununga	1	8	83	86		12	38		35	254	1	1	_
TILIACEAE	Grewia asiatica #		1									0	1	1	
TILIACEAE	Grewia breviflora					3	6					9	1	1	
TILIACEAE	Grewia D7426 Cobourg Peninsula			12		20	5	1	13	2		41	1	1	
TILIACEAE	Grewia oxyphylla			4		9	14					23	1	1	
TILIACEAE	Grewia retusifolia		1	3		1		6		3		10	1	1	
ARECACEAE	Gronophyllum ramsayi	Paliwuni	1			2	3		3		7	15	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Guettarda speciosa	Tarukwa	1	10		5	8					13	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Gymnanthera oblonga			4		26	19	2		8		55	1	1	
HERNANDIACEAE	Gyrocarpus americanus	Malikiwuni	1	1		8	7					15		1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria ferdinandi			5		2						2	1	1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria hymenophylla			2		1	2					3		1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria ochroleuca			6	1	2						3	1	1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria triplonema					1						1		1	
HAEMODORACEAE	Haemodorum A14021 red flowers			2								0	1	1	
HAEMODORACEAE	Haemodorum brevicaule	Yaringa	1	1	4	11			2			17	1	1	
HAEMODORACEAE	Haemodorum coccineum	Yaringa	1	1								0		1	
PROTEACEAE	Hakea arborescens	•		5		6			5	1		12	1	1	
CHENOPODIACEAE	Halosarcia halocnemoides	Purrawurrika	1	3		1						1	1	1	longispicata
CHENOPODIACEAE	Halosarcia indica			2								0	1	1	julacea
HANGUANACEAE	Hanguana malayana			7		4	9					13	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Hedyotis auricularia			1			2					2	1	1	melanesica
PROTEACEAE	Helicia australasica			8		18	60				2	80	1	1	
STERCULIACEAE	Helicteres A63558 Kakadu ##						1					1		1	
STERCULIACEAE	Helicteres A78389 Darwinensis			4		1						1		1	
STERCULIACEAE	Helicteres cana		+		1	1	1			1	<u> </u>	1		1	
STERCULIACEAE	Helicteres dentata			14		5			1			6	1	1	dentata

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
BORAGINACEAE	Heliotropium indicum *			1								0		1	
BORAGINACEAE	Heliotropium ovalifolium			1								0		1	
BORAGINACEAE	Heliotropium tenuifolium			1						1		1		1	
BORAGINACEAE	Heliotropium ventricosum			6		10			12	12		34	1	1	
OPHIOGLOSSACEAE	Helminthostachys zeylanica			1			1					1		1	
POACEAE	Heteropogon contortus			3		1		1	7	3		12		1	
POACEAE	Heteropogon triticeus	Pitarika	1	1		10		7	8			25	1	1	
DILLENIACEAE	Hibbertia cistifolia			8	82	29			124			235	1	1	
DILLENIACEAE	Hibbertia D34798 Mt Finniss					2						2		1	
DILLENIACEAE	Hibbertia D6730 Finniss River			10		72						72	1	1	
DILLENIACEAE	Hibbertia dealbata#							1				1		1	
DILLENIACEAE	Hibbertia tasmanica			5					9			9		1	
MALVACEAE	Hibiscus meraukensis			3		10	5		10	1		26	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Hibiscus sabdariffa *			2								0		1	
MALVACEAE	Hibiscus tiliaceus	Alabanjar	1	4		20	16					36	1	1	
MYRISTICACEAE	Horsfieldia australiana	Tukutturukuni	1	1		15	55					70	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Hoya australis	Kulipiyawuni	1	4								0	1	1	oramicola, rupicola
VERBENACEAE	Huxleya linifolia			3		2			1	1		4	1	1	,
VIOLACEAE	Hybanthus enneaspermus			1								0	1		
ARECACEAE	Hydriastele wendlandiana	Paliwuni	1	8		15	61				2	78	1	1	
ACANTHACEAE	Hygrophila angustifolia								1			1		1	
POACEAE	Hymenachne acutigluma					2						2		1	
ACANTHACEAE	Hypoestes floribunda		1	14		17	26			1		44	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Hypolytrum nemorum			17		2	16					18	1	1	
LILIACEAE	Hypoxis nervosa			4								0		1	
MENISPERMACEAE	Hypserpa decumbens			4		2						2	1	1	
MENISPERMACEAE	Hypserpa polyandra			1		1						1	1	1	
LAMIACEAE	Hyptis suaveolens*			9		8		1	1	33		43	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Ichnocarpus frutescens			2		7	46			3		56	1	1	
AQUIFOLIACEAE	Ilex arnhemensis		1	9		14	43				3	60	1	1	arnhemensis
POACEAE	Imperata cylindrica	Pitarika, Pitarini	1	5		17			1			18	1	1	
FABACEAE	Indigofera colutea	,								1		1		1	
FABACEAE	Indigofera hirsuta		1	6		4	1	1		7		11	1	1	
FABACEAE	Indigofera linifolia			4		2			39			41	1	1	
FABACEAE	Indigofera saxicola			8	1	10		7	21			39	1	1	
FABACEAE	Indigofera tinctoria *			3			1	1				0	1	1	
LILIACEAE	Iphigenia indica			4		8	1	1				8	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea abrupta	Rokuni, Roka	1	6		17	19	1	3			40	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea coptica			1						6		6		1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea eriocarpa			3		2			2			4	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea gracilis	Rokuni, Roka	1	7	1	5			14	8		28	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	lpomoea graminea	Portari, Munkwarti	1	4	4	19		2	31			56	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea macrantha			2		3	3					6	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea pes-caprae	Wurakinni, Rokuni	1	9		19						19	1	1	brasiliensis
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea pes-tigridis *			3		2						2	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea polymorpha			7		1				1		2	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea quamoclit *			5								0		1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea triloba *			9		2			3	1		6	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea velutina			2		2	2					4	1	1	
POACEAE	Isachne confusa			8		13						13	1	1	
POACEAE	Ischaemum australe			2		7						7	1	1	arundinaceum, australe
POACEAE	Ischaemum barbatum			3		4						4	1	1	
POACEAE	Ischaemum decumbens			4		3		2	13			18	1	1	
POACEAE	Ischaemum fragile					3						3	1		
POACEAE	Ischaemum rugosum			3		3						3	1	1	rugosum, segetum
ISOETACEAE	Isoetes coromandelina			2		2						2	1	1	macrotuberculata
RUBIACEAE	Ixora timorensis			15		27	58				1	86	1	1	
FABACEAE	Jacksonia dilatata			8	12	9		2	2		3	28	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Jacquemontia paniculata			1			7					7		1	
OLEACEAE	Jasminum aemulum			1		7	40	1		3		51	1	1	
OLEACEAE	Jasminum didymum			14		31	41	1	2	8		84	1	1	didymum
OLEACEAE	Jasminum molle			1		4	3	2	1			10	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Kailarsenia suffruticosa			3	21	44		19	53	4		141	1	1	
MELIACEAE	Khaya senegalensis *			1								0	1		
RUBIACEAE	Knoxia stricta			5		6			11			17	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Lantana camara *			1						1		1		1	
LEEACEAE	Leea indica			3		3						3	1	1	
LEEACEAE	Leea rubra			4			24		2	1		27	1	1	
POACEAE	Leersia hexandra					1						1		1	
CYPERACEAE	Lepironia articulata			7		8						8	1	1	
POACEAE	Leptochloa fusca			1								0		1	fusca
FABACEAE	Leptosema uniflorum			1								0		1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
MYRTACEAE	Leptospermum madidum					1		2				3	1	1	sativum
MIMOSACEAE	Leucaena leucocephala *+											0	1		
EPACRIDACEAE	Leucopogon acuminatus			14		4		1	5			10	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Limnophila chinensis			1		2						2		1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Limnophila fragrans			2		2			1			3	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia clausa					1						1		1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia cowiei			1								0		1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia crustacea *			5								0	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia D28769 Melville Island			14		3						3	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia D47857 Recurved hood						3					3		1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia lobelioides			1								0		1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia pubescens			1								0		1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia scapigera			1	1	2			13			16	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia tenuifolia			6		2						2	1	1	
LINDSAEACEAE	Lindsaea ensifolia			12		22	33	1				56	1	1	agatii, ensifolia
LINDSAEACEAE	Lindsaea walkerae			6								0	1	1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Liparis habenarina			6								0	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Lipocarpha microcephala			2		4						4	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Lithomyrtus retusa			16		10						10	1	1	
LAURACEAE	Litsea breviumbellata			21		12	54					66	1	1	
LAURACEAE	Litsea glutinosa			7		18	64		1	1	1	85	1	1	
ARECACEAE	Livistona benthamii						2					2	1	1	
ARECACEAE	Livistona humilis	Miparri, Miparriyi, Pakijipiyi	1	5	64	125		23	95		141	448	1	1	
ARECACEAE	Livistona inermis					1						1	1		
CAMPANULACEAE	Lobelia stenophylla			2		1						1	1	1	
XANTHORRHOEACEAE				3	12	43		7	27			89	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Lophostemon lactifluus	Pulumutuma	1	7	25	72		6	16		43	162	1	1	
ONAGRACEAE	Ludwigia hyssopifolia			2								0	1	1	
ONAGRACEAE	Ludwigia octovalvis			2								0		1	
ONAGRACEAE	Ludwigia perennis			1		1		1				2		1	
CUCURBITACEAE	Luffa cylindrica			3		2	5			2		9	1	1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Luisia teretifolia			6			12					12	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Lumnitzera littorea	Mijinga	1	9		2					3	5	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Lumnitzera racemosa	Mijinga	1	8		15				1	1	17	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
RUTACEAE	Luvunga monophylla			1			1					1		1	
LYCOPODIACEAE	Lycopodiella cernua		1	9		16	24					40	1	1	
LYGODIACEAE	Lygodium flexuosum			3			8					8	1	1	
LYGODIACEAE	Lygodium microphyllum			12		4	16					20	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Macaranga involucrata	Yangutangini	1	6		13	58					71	1	1	mallotoides
EUPHORBIACEAE	Macaranga tanarius			4		6	15				1	22	1	1	
FABACEAE	Macroptilium atropurpureum *			5								0	1	1	
FABACEAE	Macroptilium lathyroides *			2								0	1	1	semierectum
MALVACEAE	Malachra fasciata *			3						14		14		1	lineariloba
ORCHIDACEAE	Malaxis acuminata						1					1	1		
EUPHORBIACEAE	Mallotus nesophilus			12		20	22			2	1	45	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Mallotus philippensis					7	35			1		43	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Malvastrum coromandelianum *			1								0	1		
ANACARDIACEAE	Mangifera indica *	Mankuwu	1	1		1						1	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Mapania macrocephala			4								0	1	1	
CHRYSOBALANACEAE	Maranthes corymbosa			7		4	38				1	43	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Margaritaria dubium-traceyi			6		1	8			2		11		1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Marsdenia connivens			3		5						5	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Marsdenia geminata			1		3	8					11	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Marsdenia glandulifera			2		1	29					30	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Marsdenia trinervis			2		3						3	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Marsdenia velutina			5		3	17			1		21	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Marsdenia viridiflora			3		5				1		6	1	1	tropica
MARSILEACEAE	Marsilea hirsuta					1						1		1	
MYRTACEAE	Melaleuca argentea					1						1		1	
MYRTACEAE	Melaleuca cajuputi			1			4					4		1	
MYRTACEAE	Melaleuca D120590 Red Bark	Punkaringa	1	1		2						2		1	
MYRTACEAE	Melaleuca dealbata			1						1		1		1	
MYRTACEAE	Melaleuca leucadendra	Punkaringa	1	6		26	30				13	69	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Melaleuca nervosa			3	12	14					6	32	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Melaleuca viridiflora	Punkaringa	1	9	2	71		8	25	2	32	140	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Melanthera biflora			3		3						3		1	
MELASTOMATACEAE	Melastoma malabathricum		1	11		31	59				1	91	1	1	malabathricum
RUTACEAE	Melicope elleryana			3		18	60				3	81	1	1	
POACEAE	Melinis repens *			4								0		1	
STERCULIACEAE	Melochia corchorifolia			1						11		11		1	
APOCYNACEAE	Melodinus australis			5		1	12					13	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW		RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
MELASTOMATACEAE	Memecylon pauciflorum			9		13	44				1	58	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Merremia aegyptia *			2								0		1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Merremia dissecta *+											0	1		
CONVOLVULACEAE	Merremia gemella					1						1		1	splendens
RUTACEAE	Micromelum minutum			6		28	56			2		86	1	1	
ANNONACEAE	Miliusa brahei			1		1	17					18	1	1	
ANNONACEAE	Miliusa traceyi			2		2	2					4	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Mimosa pigra *			1								0	1		
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Mimulus uvedaliae			1								0	1		
SAPOTACEAE	Mimusops elengi		1	8		15	25				1	41	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Minuria macrorhiza			4	16	3			2			21	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Mitracarpus hirtus *			10								0		1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme aggregata			12		9						9	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme connata			18	35	30			5			70	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme elata			8	18	4			40			62	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme exserta				55	3						58	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme inornata			2								0	1		
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme laevis			13		15						15	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme multicaulis			3					4			4	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme nudicaulis					11						11	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme nummularia			15	19	21			32			72	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme retroloba			5		9						9	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme stellata				19	1						20	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitrasacme subvolubilis			4		2			2			4	1	1	
ANNONACEAE	Mitrella D24710 Melville Is.			9		3						3	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Mitreola petiolata					1						1		1	
POACEAE	Mnesithea formosa			4	3	17		2	32	1		55	1	1	
POACEAE	Mnesithea rottboellioides	Pitarika	1	4	1	30		7	20	1		59	1	1	
MOLLUGINACEAE	Mollugo pentaphylla			4								0	1	1	
PONTEDERIACEAE	Monochoria vaginalis			2								0		1	
RUBIACEAE	Morinda citrifolia	Wuliwulama	1	4		1	7					8	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Morinda D29011 black			10		6	30					36	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Morinda jasminoides			5		1	29					30	1	1	
FABACEAE	Mucuna gigantea						5					5	1	1	gigantea
POLYGONACEAE	Muehlenbeckia rhyticarya			1			1					1		1	
CUCURBITACEAE	Mukia D51174						1					1	1		
CUCURBITACEAE	Mukia maderaspatana			1								0		1	
COMMELINACEAE	Murdannia A7726 Top End					12						12	1		

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
COMMELINACEAE	Murdannia cleistantha			2		3						3	1		
COMMELINACEAE	Murdannia gigantea			5		11			56			67	1	1	
COMMELINACEAE	Murdannia graminea			10	2	20		2	3			27	1	1	
COMMELINACEAE	Murdannia nudiflora *			3								0	1	1	
COMMELINACEAE	Murdannia vaginata			1		4						4	1	1	
RUTACEAE	Murraya paniculata			4		2	18					20	1	1	ovatifoliolata
HALORAGACEAE	Myriophyllum filiforme			1								0	1		
HALORAGACEAE	Myriophyllum trachycarpum			1								0	1		
MYRISTICACEAE	Myristica insipida		1	4		1	77				5	83	1	1	
MYRISTICACEAE	Myristica lancifolia			7		5						5	1	1	australiana
NAJADACEAE	Najas browniana			1								0	1		
NAJADACEAE	Najas graminea			1								0	1		
RUBIACEAE	Nauclea orientalis			1								0		1	
LAURACEAE	Neolitsea brassii			8		3	33				1	37	1	1	
DAVALLIACEAE	Nephrolepis biserrata			5		13	52					65	1	1	
MIMOSACEAE	Neptunia gracilis			6		3			8	1		12	1	1	gracilis
ORCHIDACEAE	Nervilia peltata			2		1	1					2	1	1	
OLEACEAE	Notelaea microcarpa			4		1	12					13	1	1	
NYMPHAEACEAE	Nymphaea nouchali			1								0		1	
NYMPHAEACEAE	Nymphaea violacea	Purnarrika, Malaritinga	1	2		5						5	1	1	
MENYANTHACEAE	Nymphoides indica					1						1		1	
ARECACEAE	Nypa fruticans	Rola	1	6								0		1	
OLACACEAE	Olax imbricata			5			14					14	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Oldenlandia corymbosa *			3								0	1	1	corymbosa
RUBIACEAE	Oldenlandia galioides					2						2	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Oldenlandia mitrasacmoides					1			1			2		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Omalanthus novo-guineensis			1		2	14					16	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Operculina brownii			3			5					5		1	
OPHIOGLOSSACEAE	Ophioglossum intermedium			10			11					11	1	1	
OPHIOGLOSSACEAE	Ophioglossum reticulatum			3								0	1	1	
OPILIACEAE	Opilia amentacea	Murinyini	1	14		44	79	1		4		128	1	1	
POACEAE	Oplismenus burmanni	-		1		1						1	1		
POACEAE	Oplismenus compositus					1						1		1	
MELASTOMATACEAE	Osbeckia australiana			4	4	12						16	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Osbornia octodonta	Mijinga	1	5		3						3	1	1	
MELIACEAE	Owenia reticulata			1								0		1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
MELIACEAE	Owenia vernicosa										1	1		1	
MENISPERMACEAE	Pachygone ovata			1		3	59				1	63	1	1	
DILLENIACEAE	Pachynema complanatum			14	72	33		9	66			180	1	1	
DILLENIACEAE	Pachynema dilatatum					4						4	1	1	
DILLENIACEAE	Pachynema junceum			2		24		1	17			42	1	1	
DILLENIACEAE	Pachynema sphenandrum			6		12						12	1	1	
PANDANACEAE	Pandanus spiralis	Miyaringa	1	3	11	126		16	40	1	68	262	1	1	
POACEAE	Panicum decompositum #							1				1		1	
POACEAE	Panicum mindanaense			4	10	13			10	6		39	1	1	
POACEAE	Panicum trichoides			1		8	3			3		14	1	1	
CHRYSOBALANACEAE	Parinari nonda					1						1	1		
APOCYNACEAE	Parsonsia D30178 Melville Island			3		1	30					31	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Parsonsia velutina			10		13	48					61	1	1	
POACEAE	Paspalidium rarum			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Paspalum scrobiculatum			6		4			6	2		12	1	1	
PASSIFLORACEAE	Passiflora foetida *		1	11		13			1	18		32	1	1	
IRIDACEAE	Patersonia macrantha			3	1	6		2				9	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Pavetta brownii			3		1					3	4	1	1	brownii
RUBIACEAE	Pavetta tenella			12		3						3	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Peltophorum pterocarpum			2		1	6					7	1	1	
LYTHRACEAE	Pemphis acidula	Mijinga	1	3		3						3		1	
POACEAE	Pennisetum pedicellatum *			11								0	1	1	pedicellatum
POACEAE	Pennisetum polystachion *			1								0		1	polystachion
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Peplidium maritimum			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Perotis rara			4		4						4	1	1	
PROTEACEAE	Persoonia falcata			13	96	112		3	95		16	322	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Petalostigma banksii					6						6	1		
EUPHORBIACEAE	Petalostigma pubescens		1	3	1	25		13	39	2	27	107	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Petalostigma quadriloculare			5	26	32		8	13			79	1	1	
THYMELAEACEAE	Phaleria octandra			16		1	27					28	1	1	
POACEAE	Pheidochloa gracilis			2								0	1		
PHILYDRACEAE	Philydrum lanuginosum			2		2						2	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Phyla nodiflora			1				1				1		1	nodiflora
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus amarus *			10		1						1	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus carpentariae			2								0		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus ciccoides			4			6			3		9	1	1	ciccoides
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus exilis			7				1				0		1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus flagellaris			9		20		1				21	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus minutiflorus			1					2	2		4	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus reticulatus			1		1						1		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus sulcatus			1								0		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus urinaria			2		1			2	4		7	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus virgatus			5	3	22		1	43	2		71	1	1	
FABACEAE	Phyllodium pulchellum			6		3			1			4	1	1	glabrius, pulchellum
SOLANACEAE	Physalis minima *			7		1				1		2	1	1	
PINACEAE	Pinus caribaea *										2	2		1	
PIPERACEAE	Piper macropiper			6		9	47					56	1	1	
NYCTAGINACEAE	Pisonia aculeata			1			6					6	1	1	
PITTOSPORACEAE	Pittosporum ferrugineum			1			1					1	1	1	ferrugineum
PITTOSPORACEAE	Pittosporum moluccanum			4		1	3					4		1	
LECYTHIDACEAE	Planchonia careya	Kanuli	1	5	38	147		32	126	5	46	394	1	1	
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus scutellarioides			5		3	7		3			13	1	1	
AGAVACEAE	Pleomele angustifolia	Mirima	1	16		15	68				1	84	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Pleurocarpaea denticulata					1			1			2		1	
ASTERACEAE	Pluchea indica			1			1					1	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Pluchea rubelliflora			4		1						1	1	1	
PLUMBAGINACEAE	Plumbago zeylanica					1						1		1	
RUBIACEAE	Pogonolobus reticulatus	Arrukununga	1	4	1	21		12	15			49	1	1	
LAMIACEAE	Pogostemon stellatus								1			1		1	
ANNONACEAE	Polyalthia australis			2		10	45					55	1	1	
ANNONACEAE	Polyalthia nitidissima			8		5	43					48	1	1	
CARYOPHYLLACEAE	Polycarpaea breviflora					1						1		1	
CARYOPHYLLACEAE	Polycarpaea corymbosa					1						1		1	
CARYOPHYLLACEAE	Polycarpaea violacea			2		2						2	1	1	
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala eriocephala			3	37	1		1	30			69	1	1	
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala exsquarrosa			5								0	1	1	
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala glaucoides			2								0	1	1	
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala longifolia			1	3							3		1	
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala orbicularis			13	32	52			54	3		141	1	1	orbicularis
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala pycnophylla			1		1						1		1	
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala rhinanthoides			1		1			1			2	1	1	minor
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala stenoclada			2		2						2	1	1	stenosepala
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala triflora			1		28						28	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Polymeria ambigua			3		6			1	2		9	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
ARALIACEAE	Polyscias australiana			9		6	38	1				45	1	1	
FABACEAE	Pongamia pinnata			2		6	4				1	11	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Poranthera microphylla			3	1	6			5			12	1	1	
PORTULACACEAE	Portulaca bicolor			4		2				2		4	1	1	rosea
PORTULACACEAE	Portulaca oleracea			2								0	1	1	
PORTULACACEAE	Portulaca pilosa *			2						4		4		1	
SAPOTACEAE	Pouteria arnhemica		1	9	6	19		4	31	1	11	72	1	1	
SAPOTACEAE	Pouteria richardii					8	63				5	76	1	1	
SAPOTACEAE	Pouteria sericea	Murinyi	1	8		31	49	1			2	83	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Premna acuminata	j				3	7	1	1	1		13	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Premna herbacea			3		2						2	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Premna odorata			3		8					1	9		1	
VERBENACEAE	Premna serratifolia		1	6		1	9					10	1	1	
LILIACEAE	Protasparagus racemosus	Aruwuinni	1	4		19	24	1	1			45	1	1	
POACEAE	Pseudopogonatherum contortum	Wupunga	1	1	19	6			102	1		128	1	1	
POACEAE	Pseudopogonatherum irritans			7		24		19				43	1	1	
POACEAE	Pseudoraphis spinescens									1		1		1	
RUBIACEAE	Psychotria coelosperma			8		2	18					20	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Psychotria daphnoides			1			2					2		1	
RUBIACEAE	Psychotria nesophila			6		8	39				1	48	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Psydrax odorata			3		9	24					33	1	1	arnhemica
DENNSTAEDTIACEAE	Pteridium revolutum			5		1	6					7	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Pterocaulon serrulatum			1		1				1		2		1	serrulatum
ASTERACEAE	Pterocaulon sphacelatum					1						1		1	
AMARANTHACEAE	Ptilotus distans			3	3	4						7		1	
FABACEAE	Pycnospora lutescens			4		13			8			21	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Quisqualis indica *			2								0		1	
MYRSINACEAE	Rapanea benthamiana					5					2	7	1	1	
MYRSINACEAE	Rapanea pedicellata			12		9	53					62	1	1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Rhizophora apiculata	Pukulijupa, Purirringa	1	9		2					4	6	1	1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Rhizophora lamarckii			7		1					2	3	1	1	
RHIZOPHORACEAE	Rhizophora stylosa	Pukulijupa, Purirringa	1	6		16					1	17	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Rhodamnia australis			1		1	9					10	1	1	
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia australis			2		2	3					5	1	1	
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia minima					7			10	1		17	1	1	

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CYPERACEAE	Rhynchospora brownii			12		3						3	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Rhynchospora gracillima					1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Rhynchospora heterochaeta			7	39	6			25	6		76	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Rhynchospora longisetis			1		1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Rhynchospora rubra			5		12						12	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Richardia scabra *			3								0		1	includes some former records of Richardia brasiliensis
ACANTHACEAE	Rostellularia adscendens								14	1		15	1	1	
LYTHRACEAE	Rotala mexicana			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Rottboellia cochinchinensis			3								0	1	1	
ACANTHACEAE	Ruellia tuberosa *			3								0	1	1	
POACEAE	Sacciolepis indica			3	1	9			9			19	1	1	
POACEAE	Sacciolepis myosuroides			1		1						1	1		
POLYGALACEAE	Salomonia ciliata			7		4						4	1	1	
CHENOPODIACEAE	Salsola tragus *			1		2						2	1	1	
SANTALACEAE	Santalum album			8		5	14				1	20	1	1	
SANTALACEAE	Santalum lanceolatum			1								0		1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Sarcolobus hullsii			1								0		1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Sarcostemma viminale			3		1	8					9		1	brunonianum,
EUPHORBIACEAE	Sauropus brunonis			3	11	2			46			59	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Sauropus ditassoides		1	5		15		2	43			60		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Sauropus glaucus			4	40	47			52			139	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Sauropus ochrophyllus			1								0		1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Sauropus paucifolius			3								0	1	1	
GOODENIACEAE	Scaevola angulata			3		3		1				4		1	
GOODENIACEAE	Scaevola taccada	Wuraka	1	9		7						7	1	1	
ARALIACEAE	Schefflera actinophylla						1					1	1		
POACEAE	Schizachyrium D21454 wingless			1		4						4	1	1	
POACEAE	Schizachyrium fragile			1	8	6		7	47			68	1	1	
POACEAE	Schizachyrium pachyarthron			1		4						4	1	1	
POACEAE	Schizachyrium pseudeulalia			2	1	2			1			4	1	1	
SCHIZAEACEAE	Schizaea dichotoma	Yawurlawuni	1	20		2	30					32	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Schoenoplectus litoralis			3		1						1		1	
CYPERACEAE	Schoenus calostachyus			9		8						8	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Schoenus falcatus					2						2	1		

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
CYPERACEAE	Schoenus punctatus			2		7						7	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Schoenus sparteus			3	1	7			2			10	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria A35618 Oenpelli					1						1	1		
CYPERACEAE	Scleria biflora			1		2						2	1	1	biflora
CYPERACEAE	Scleria brownii			2	6	12			26	4		48	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria caricina			1								0	1		
CYPERACEAE	Scleria carphiformis			3		3						3	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria ciliaris	Tornty	1	14		7	50					57	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria laxa	•		5		10						10	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria levis			1		2						2	1		
CYPERACEAE	Scleria lingulata			4		6	7					13	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria lithosperma			8		2	15					17	1	1	lithosperma
CYPERACEAE	Scleria novae-hollandiae			1		15						15	1	1	,
CYPERACEAE	Scleria polycarpa			6		2	10			2		14	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria pygmaea			2		12			6			18	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria rugosa			5		7	6	1				14	1	1	
CYPERACEAE	Scleria sphacelata			5	1	2	1		9			13		1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Scoparia dulcis *			7								0	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Scyphiphora hydrophylacea	Murruka	1	10		4						4	1	1	
EUPHORBIACEAE	Sebastiania chamaelea			3		12						12	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Secamone elliptica			7		19	28			6		53	1	1	
POACEAE	Sehima nervosum					3		3				6	1	1	
SELAGINELLACEAE	Selaginella ciliaris			1								0		1	
SELAGINELLACEAE	Selaginella pygmaea			2		3						3	1	1	
SELAGINELLACEAE	Selaginella uliginosa			4		5						5	1	1	
ANACARDIACEAE	Semecarpus australiensis	Kajuwiyi	1									0		1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Senna obtusifolia *			2								0		1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Senna occidentalis *			7								0	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Senna surattensis			1		1	1					2		1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Senna timorensis						1					1	1		
FABACEAE	Sesbania cannabina									6		6		1	
AIZOACEAE	Sesuvium portulacastrum			5		5						5	1	1	
POACEAE	Setaria apiculata			4	28	12		6	28	1		75	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Sida acuta *			12		2	8				1	10	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Sida cordifolia *			6								0	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Sida pusilla			2								0		1	
MALVACEAE	Sida rhombifolia *			5								0		1	
SMILACACEAE	Smilax australis	Turukwanga	1	8		104	98	8	16	2		228	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
SOLANACEAE	Solanum americanum *			1								0		1	
SOLANACEAE	Solanum tetrandrum		1	11		4	3					7	1	1	
SONNERATIACEAE	Sonneratia alba	Maripwanga	1	5								0	1	1	
SONNERATIACEAE	Sonneratia lanceolata			2		2						2		1	
FABACEAE	Sophora longipes						11					11	1	1	
POACEAE	Sorghum bicolor *			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Sorghum exstans			5		6						6		1	
POACEAE	Sorghum interjectum					17						17	1	1	
POACEAE	Sorghum intrans	Marakati	1	1	41			3	17	1		62	1	1	
POACEAE	Sorghum laxiflorum			2								0	1		
POACEAE	Sorghum plumosum	Marakati	1	5	66	18		4	37	1		126	1	1	plumosum
LILIACEAE	Sowerbaea alliacea			1		3						3		1	
BIGNONIACEAE	Spathodea campanulata *			1								0	1		
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce articularis *			1								0	1		
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce D129311 variabilis			5		26						26	1		
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce D138967 pectinifera			33		35						35	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce D23270 occultiseta			9								0	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce D43976 retitesta			17		15						15	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce leptoloba			6		58						58	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce omissa			3								0		1	
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce stenophylla			3		3						3	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce verticillata *			2								0	1		
ASTERACEAE	Sphaeranthus africanus			1		2						2		1	
ASTERACEAE	Sphaeromorphaea australis			2								0	1	1	
SPHENOCLEACEAE	Sphenoclea zeylanica			1		1						1		1	
POACEAE	Spinifex longifolius	Pitarika	1	9		12						12	1	1	
POACEAE	Sporobolus jacquemontii *			1								0		1	
POACEAE	Sporobolus pyramidalis *			1	1		1					0		1	
POACEAE	Sporobolus virginicus			2		2				2		4	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Stachytarpheta cayennensis *			3		1					1	0	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Stachytarpheta jamaicensis *			2		1						0	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Stachytarpheta mutabilis *			1	1					1		0	<u> </u>	1	
STACKHOUSIACEAE	Stackhousia intermedia			5	12	18			11			41	1	1	
ACANTHACEAE	Staurogyne leptocaulis			2	1 -	1				1		1	l .	11	decumbens
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Stemodia lythrifolia			† <del>-</del>	1	1	1			1		1		i i	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
PROTEACEAE	Stenocarpus acacioides			4		16		6	7		3	32	1	1	includes some
															former records of
															S. cunninghamii
PROTEACEAE	Stenocarpus verticis		1	4		3	19					22	1	1	
BLECHNACEAE	Stenochlaena palustris			3		25	62					87	1	1	
MENISPERMACEAE	Stephania japonica			3		4	19	1	3	4		26	1	1	japonica, timoriensis
STERCULIACEAE	Sterculia holtzei			1		2	9					11	1	1	
STERCULIACEAE	Sterculia quadrifida	Wurranyini, Malikini	1	7		34	57		5	2	3	101	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Stictocardia tiliifolia			1			3					3	1	1	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Striga curviflora			2	1	1			6			8	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Strychnos lucida		1	2		28	41		1	7	1	78	1	1	
LOGANIACEAE	Strychnos minor			14		7	43					50	1	1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium candelabrum			3								0	1	1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium capillare					1						1	1		
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium ceratophorum			1								0		1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium cordifolium					1		1				2	1	1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium dunlopianum			1		1						1		1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium fissilobum			1		1						1		1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium leptorrhizum				12	4		1	21			38	1	1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium multiscapum			1		1						1		1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium nominatum			3								0	1	1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium pachyrhizum			1								0		1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium pedunculatum			1								0		1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium rotundifolium			3								0	1	1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium schizanthum			4		6						6	1	1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium semipartitum			7		2						2	1	1	
STYLIDIACEAE	Stylidium tenerrimum			1		2						2		1	
FABACEAE	Stylosanthes guianensis *			2								0		1	
FABACEAE	Stylosanthes hamata *			2								0		1	
FABACEAE	Stylosanthes humilis *			6						3		3		1	
FABACEAE	Stylosanthes viscosa *			1								0		1	
CHENOPODIACEAE	Suaeda arbusculoides	Purrawurrika	1	4								0	1		
ASTERACEAE	Synedrella nodiflora *			12								0	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Syzygium angophoroides	Pintawunga	1	3		5	30				1	36	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Syzygium armstrongii	Parntirringa	1	8		1	4				1	6		1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
MYRTACEAE	Syzygium eucalyptoides	Tumurangkini, Tumaranka	1	3	37	25		6	9		6	83	1	1	bleeseri
MYRTACEAE	Syzygium fibrosum	Tiwulama	1	22		9	45					54	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Syzygium forte	Pintawuni	1	11		2	46				2	50	1	1	forte, potamophilum
MYRTACEAE	Syzygium minutuliflorum		1	4			57				1	58	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Syzygium nervosum					6	1					7	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Syzygium suborbiculare	Pinyawini, Wurringawuni, Purringawuni, Pinyama	1	15	4	39		4	7		14	68	1	1	coastal
APOCYNACEAE	Tabernaemontana orientalis	•		12		4	43					47	1	1	
TACCACEAE	Tacca leontopetaloides	Aligirryaka, Alarriga	1	7		34	8	1	16	5		64	1	1	
ADIANTACEAE	Taenitis blechnoides			18		1	30					31	1	1	
CAESALPINIACEAE	Tamarindus indica *		1	1								0		1	
RUBIACEAE	Tarenna australis			1			12					12	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Tarenna dallachiana			12		28	43		1	1	1	74	1	1	expandens
RUBIACEAE	Tarenna pentamera			10	1	10	24		1		1	37	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Tarennoidea wallichii			7		1						1		1	
CHENOPODIACEAE	Tecticornia australasica	Purrawurrika	1	4								0		1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia A7640 bifacialis			3								0		1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia elliptica *#								4			4		1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia juncea			2		2		1				3	1	1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia lamproloboides			4		2						2	1		
FABACEAE	Tephrosia leptoclada			4		4			2			6	1	1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia oblongata	Yirrimunukamini	1	4		3						3	1	1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia porrecta			4								0		1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia remotiflora	Majatama	1	15		14						14	1	1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia simplicifolia			2	1				1			0	1	1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia vestita *#				1				2			2	1	1	
FABACEAE	Tephrosia villosa *#				1				10			10	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Terminalia D20544 Black Pt				1		30		1			30	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Terminalia ferdinandiana	Pirlamunga	1	7	29	66		6	70	2	25	198	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Terminalia fitzgeraldii			1		1				2		2	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Terminalia grandiflora	Tuluwunga	1	1	1	4		2	3		4	13	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Terminalia latipes										6	6	1		latipes

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
COMBRETACEAE	Terminalia microcarpa	Tinginga	1	7		15	50	1		7	2	75	1	1	
COMBRETACEAE	Terminalia pterocarya			3		3			2	1	1	7	1	1	
POACEAE	Thaumastochloa major			5	64	45		6	74			189	1	1	
POACEAE	Thaumastochloa pubescens			2		1						1	1	1	
POACEAE	Thaumastochloa rubra					1						1		1	
THYMELAEACEAE	Thecanthes punicea			2		2		1	3			6	1	1	
POACEAE	Themeda arguens			6		10			15			25	1	1	
POACEAE	Themeda quadrivalvis					1						1		1	
POACEAE	Themeda triandra			1		9		4				13	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Thespesia populneoides	Alabanjar	1	2		7	4			1	1	13	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Thespesia thespesioides			3		4				1		5		1	
ORCHIDACEAE	Thrixspermum congestum			3		1	7					8	1	1	
ACANTHACEAE	Thunbergia arnhemica			1		1						1		1	
LILIACEAE	Thysanotus banksii			1		4						4	1	1	
LILIACEAE	Thysanotus chinensis			5		2			5			7	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Timonius timon			4		19	28				3	50	1	1	
MENISPERMACEAE	Tinospora smilacina	Rokuni	1	5		35	25		3	2		65	1	1	
APIACEAE	Trachymene didiscoides			7	18			2	2			22	1	1	
APIACEAE	Trachymene lacerata			3		1						1	1	1	
APIACEAE	Trachymene microcephala			2		1						1	1		
APIACEAE	Trachymene rotundifolia			2		1						1	1		
ULMACEAE	Trema tomentosa			6		5	15			2		22	1	1	viridis
AIZOACEAE	Trianthema portulacastrum *			2						1		1	1	1	
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Tribulus cistoides *			6								0		1	
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Tribulus terrestris *					1						1		1	
CUCURBITACEAE	Trichosanthes holtzei					4	2					6		1	
CYPERACEAE	Tricostularia undulata			8		21						21	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Tridax procumbens *			5								0	1	1	
RUBIACEAE	Triflorensia australis			4		5						5	1	1	
POACEAE	Triodia microstachya	Mulani	1	3		1		1				2	1		
TILIACEAE	Triumfetta albida			2								0	1		
TILIACEAE	Triumfetta aquila			3								0		1	
TILIACEAE	Triumfetta pentandra *			12		3						3	1	1	
TILIACEAE	Triumfetta repens			3		1						1	1		
TILIACEAE	Triumfetta rhomboidea			8		6				10		16	1	1	
MORACEAE	Trophis scandens			2		6	25					31	1	1	scandens
ORCHIDACEAE	Tropidia curculigoides						1					1		1	
MELIACEAE	Turraea pubescens						6					6		1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.		BW	HP	RF	MTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Tylophora cinerascens			5		3						3	1	1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Tylophora erecta			5		1			1			2		1	
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Tylophora flexuosa			6		19	36			7		62	1	1	
TYPHACEAE	Typha domingensis											0		1	reported only by Holtze (1892)
ARACEAE	Typhonium cochleare			1								0		1	
ARACEAE	Typhonium flagelliforme			5		3	9		4			16	1	1	
ARACEAE	Typhonium jonesii	Jilarringa	1	4								0	1	1	
ARACEAE	Typhonium mirabile			5		3						3		1	
ARACEAE	Typhonium russell-smithii			1								0		1	
FABACEAE	Uraria lagopodioides			2	3	13			24	1		41	1	1	
MALVACEAE	Urena lobata			3		1	2					3		1	
POACEAE	Urochloa distachya			2								0		1	
POACEAE	Urochloa holosericea			3		11			1	3		15	1	1	holosericea
POACEAE	Urochloa maxima *+			4								0	1	1	
POACEAE	Urochloa mosambicensis *			8								0	1	1	
POACEAE	Urochloa mutica *+											0	1		
POACEAE	Urochloa piligera			1								0	1		
POACEAE	Urochloa polyphylla					1						1	1		
POACEAE	Urochloa pubigera			2								0	1		
POACEAE	Urochloa subquadripara			1	18	1			23	1		43	1	1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia aurea					1						1		1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia caerulea			4		8						8	1	1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia capilliflora			2		3						3	1		
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia chrysantha			5		8		2				10	1	1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia D17394 parvialba			2		8						8	1		
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia gibba			1		1						1	1		
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia involvens			1								0		1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia kimberleyensis			3		6						6	1	1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia lasiocaulis			1		1						1	1		
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia leptoplectra			7		13						13	1	1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia leptorhyncha			1		1						1	1		
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia limosa					1						1	1		
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia minutissima			5		2						2	1	1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia quinquedentata					2						2		1	
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia subulata					1						1	1		
LENTIBULARIACEAE	Utricularia uliginosa			6		7						7	1	1	
ANNONACEAE	Uvaria holtzei			11		10	46					56	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
MELIACEAE	Vavaea amicorum					1						1		1	
MELIACEAE	Vavaea australiana			3		3	21					24	1	1	
ASTERACEAE	Vernonia patula			3			3					3		1	
MYRTACEAE	Verticordia cunninghamii				8	7		1				16	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Verticordia verticillata			3		2		1				3	1	1	
FABACEAE	Vigna lanceolata			4		31		10	46			87	1	1	filiformis
FABACEAE	Vigna radiata			1		2			2	1		5		1	sublobata
FABACEAE	Vigna vexillata	Wuliwirranga	1	9	4	10		1	18			33	1	1	angustifolia, vexillata
VISCACEAE	Viscum articulatum			12		1	2		1			4	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Vitex acuminata	Wurnika	1	5		5	19			2	1	27	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Vitex glabrata	Wurnika	1	6		8	27		5	4	1	45	1	1	
VERBENACEAE	Vitex rotundifolia			3		5						5	1	1	
VITTARIACEAE	Vittaria ensiformis			9		4	23					27	1	1	
STERCULIACEAE	Waltheria indica					1			1			2		1	
CYPERACEAE	Websteria confervoides			1								0	1		
ASTERACEAE	Wedelia urticifolia			5		16			14	1		31	1	1	
POACEAE	Whiteochloa airoides								1			1		1	
POACEAE	Whiteochloa capillipes			2		15			18	1		34	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Wrightia pubescens			6		4	32					36	1	1	
APOCYNACEAE	Wrightia saligna			4	33	13		3	20			69	1	1	
MYRTACEAE	Xanthostemon paradoxus					1						1		1	
MYRTACEAE	Xanthostemon psidioides	Tinginga	1	4		12	13				3	28	1	1	
CONVOLVULACEAE	Xenostegia tridentata			3		4			2			6	1	1	
POACEAE	Xerochloa imberbis			3		2						2	1	1	
MELIACEAE	Xylocarpus granatum			8		3					2	5	1	1	
MELIACEAE	Xylocarpus moluccensis	Pupwurrupwani	1	8		12						12	1	1	
ANNONACEAE	Xylopia D30127 Melville Island			1			5					5	1	1	
XYRIDACEAE	Xyris cheumatophila			3		11						11	1	1	
XYRIDACEAE	Xyris complanata			7	3	46		4	8			61	1	1	
XYRIDACEAE	Xyris indica			2								0		1	
XYRIDACEAE	Xyris oligantha			1								0	1		
XYRIDACEAE	Xyris pusilla					1						1		1	
POACEAE	Yakirra nulla			2	18				8			26		1	
RUTACEAE	Zanthoxylum parviflorum	Yarlakarliwuni	1	5		15	40					55	1	1	
RHAMNACEAE	Ziziphus oenopolia			2		1	10			2		13	1	1	
RHAMNACEAE	Ziziphus quadrilocularis						18					18	1	1	

FAMILY	scientific name	Tiwi name	Pur.	HR	BW	HP	RF	NTV M	RFe	RFe 2	NHT	total quads	Bath.	Melv.	Notes; subspecies present
FABACEAE	Zornia disticha			4								0	1	1	
FABACEAE	Zornia prostrata			7		3						3	1	1	

# Appendix B.

Dossiers on threatened plant taxa recorded from the Tiwi Islands.

These accounts are derived from Anon (2002) *Threatened species of the Northern Territory. Information package*. NT Department of Infrastructure Planning and Environment, Darwin.; but updated where more recent information is available.

Note that distribution maps show NT distributions only: for a few of these species, distributions extend beyond the NT.

# Burmannia D61177 Bathurst Island

## **Conservation status**

<u>Australia</u> (*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*): Endangered.

Northern Territory (Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000): Endangered.

## Description

A herbaceous leafless saprophyte to 12 cm tall, with a small tuber. All parts translucent white, including stem. An undescribed species closely related to the Asian species *B. bifaria* JJS (Jonker, 1954).

Flowering: June, Nov. Fruiting: June.



Burmannia D61177 Bathurst Island. (Photo K. Brennan)

## **Ecology**

Very little is known of the ecology of this plant. It is recorded from wet spring-fed jungles growing out of damp peat in raised areas.

Uncommon on deep, undisturbed peat, *Burmannia* seems to have a disturbance requirement and the species may be able to colonise areas lightly disturbed by pigs. However, plants recorded in areas of pig rooting were only found where they were afforded protection within a network of sizeable roots. The saprophytic habit requires soil organic material and the establishment of this species may not occur on mineral soil (Fensham 1993).

#### **Conservation assessment**

Recorded from two subpopulations in 1991 with a total population estimated between 500-2000 individuals in a 40 ha area. None were detected in the area in 1998-2000. Only one population of six individuals was recorded in 2001. This taxon qualifies as Endangered (under criteria B1ab(iii)+2ab(iii); C2b) based on:

• an extent of occurrence estimated to be <5000 km<sup>2</sup>

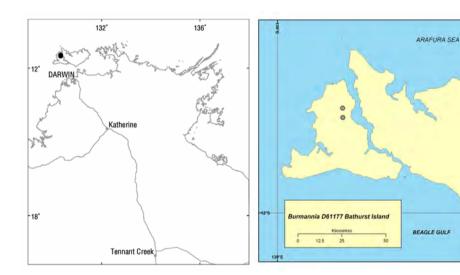
- an area of occupancy estimated to be <500 km<sup>2</sup>
- extreme fluctuations in number of locations and subpopulations and
- an inferred continuing decline due to extensive and frequent pig disturbance.

There is evidence to suggest that feral pigs are responsible for excavating *Burmannia* in their search for food.

#### Distribution

The entire known distribution is two locations on Bathurst Island.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.



Known locations of Burmannia D61177 Bathurst Island.

## **Conservation objectives and management**

Further research on the impact of pig disturbance, the environmental requirements of the species and the dynamics of the population are urgently required. Fencing of some areas of habitat is required to afford protection from pigs.

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan , lan Cowie, Bryan Baker [January 2002]

### References

Fensham, R.J. 1993 The impact of pig rooting on populations of *Burmannia* sp., a rare rainforest herb on Bathurst Island. *Proc. R. Soc. Qd* 103:5-12. Jonker, F.P. (1954). Burmanniaceae. *Flora Malesiana* 4:13-26.

# Calochilus caeruleus L.O.Williams

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

# **Description**

Erect terrestrial orchid, dying back to an underground tuber each dry season. Leaf to 40 cm x 8 mm, shallowly three-cornered in cross section and fleshy. Flower stem to 80 cm tall, slender, wiry and bearing four to eight flowers. Flowers greenish with red-brown markings and red labellum hairs.

Flowering: Dec-Jan. Fruiting: Jan.



Calochilus caeruleus

## **Ecology**

The species grows in swamps and seasonally inundated flats in open forest, wet heathland and *Melaleuca* woodland. The flower stem emerges before the leaves and these are not fully developed until after the seeds are shed. Each flower lasts about one day and usually only one or two open on an inflorescence at once.

#### **Conservation assessment**

This species is classified as Vulnerable (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- a population size estimated to be <1000 and
- a restricted distribution estimated to be <20 km<sup>2</sup>.

Current data supports a category of Endangered. However, it has been downgraded due to the probable negative collection bias associated with this species. The flowering period is short and occurs during the early wet season when preferred habitat is difficult to access.

The classification of data deficient is unwarranted because of the considerable survey effort on Melville and Bathurst Island during the wet season in 2000-01.

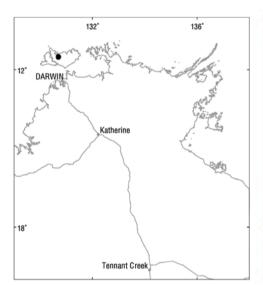
## Threatening processes

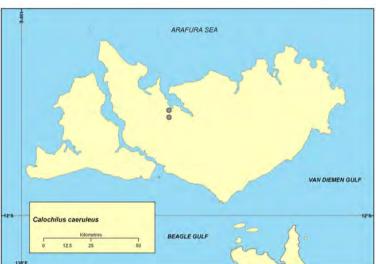
With a very restricted distribution and small population this species is susceptible to stochastic events. As a terrestrial orchid threatening processes would include weed infestation, changes in hydrology and impact of fire. The presence and impact of these processes are as yet unknown.

#### Distribution

Tropical Qld, NT, WA and New Guinea. In the NT, it is only known from two collections (in 1975 and 1992) on Melville Island. These are likely to be from the same population.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Calochilus caeruleus.

# Conservation objectives and management

Further taxon specific surveys are required to determine the status and management requirements of the population.

### Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Jones, D. L. (1988) Native Orchids of Australia. Reed, Australia.

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000) *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Cephalomanes obscurum (Blume) K.lwats.

#### Conservation status

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. <u>Northern Territory</u> (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Endangered.

## **Description**

Terrestrial fern, erect to 20 cm tall. Leaf blade 3-pinnate to 3-pinnate-pinnatifid, 5-15 cm long, 2-9 cm wide. Clusters of spores (sori) erect, borne on short lobes in the axils of tertiary segments.



Cephalomanes obscurum. (Photo J. Risler)

## **Ecology**

Recorded as growing in damp gullies along creek banks or under rock ledges, in tropical and subtropical rain forest.

Recorded as a common coloniser, growing in dense patches, with young plants (sporelings) appearing in disturbed sites.

## **Conservation assessment**

This taxon qualifies for **Endangered** (under criteria D) based on the number of mature individuals in the total population estimated to be <250.

The Magela Creek population, collected in 1984, consisted of four individuals. The Tarracumbie population first collected in 1975 and last collected in 2000 consists of approximately 100 individuals. Additional populations have not been collected nor has the second population on Melville Island been recollected since 1994. This is despite substantial survey effort on the Tiwi Islands in the last 3-4 years.

It is possible that more populations exist. However, using the precautionary principle, the status of Endangered is given based on estimates of population size.

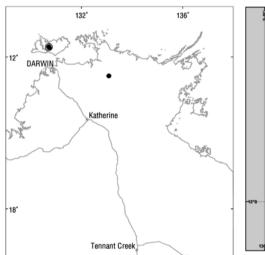
# Threatening processes

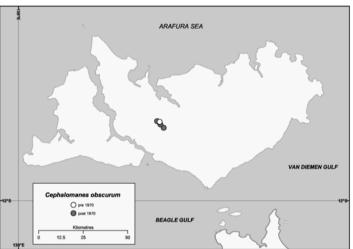
With a small population size this species is susceptible to stochastic events. Changes to hydrology and infestation from exotic weeds have the potential to threaten known populations but at present they are not imminent threats.

#### Distribution

Occurs from north-eastern Qld to north-eastern NSW; also in Sri Lanka, southern India to Taiwan, Malesia, Solomon Island and possibly Vanuatu. In the NT, collected from three localities: Tarracumbie Falls and a nearby location on Melville Island, and Magela Creek in Arnhem Land.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of *Cephalomanes obscurum*. (o = pre 1970; • = post 1970)

## **Conservation objectives and management**

Further survey is required to monitor the known populations and to search for others.

### Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2001]

#### References

Bostock, P.D. and Spokes, M.Tracey. (1998). Hymenophyllaceae. *Flora of Australia* 48. ABRS, Canberra.

Liddle, D.T., Russell-Smith, J., Brock, J., Leach, G.J. and Connors, G.T. (1994) *Atlas of the vascular rainforest plants of the Northern Territory.* Flora of Australia Supplementary Series No. 3, ABRS, Canberra.

# Cycas armstrongii Miq

#### Conservation status

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

# **Description**

Medium cycad up to 6 m tall with a slender trunk 6-12 cm in diameter. Branching occurs along with occasional offsets and basal suckers. Leaves form an obliquely erect to spreading crown. Each has 160-300 leaflets attached to the rachis at about 70° with a prominent midrib above.



Cycas armstrongii (Photo D. Liddle)

## **Ecology**

Mainly in open grassy woodland on yellow and red earths, limited in the area by drainage.

## **Conservation assessment**

This species is locally abundant with less than 1% of the population included in conservation reserves. Applying the precautionary principle within the range, this species qualifies as **Vulnerable** (under criteria A4ce) based on a predicted >30% reduction in population size over a 100 year period commencing a decade ago.

Available habitat proximal to Darwin and the Litchfield Shire has been reduced due to land clearing for urban, rural residential and horticultural purposes. Such land clearing is expected to continue as Darwin expands. In particular prime cycad habitat with deep loamy soil has been identified as land suitable for horticulture. It is anticipated that substantial areas of prime habitat on the Tiwi Islands will be cleared for forestry. In

areas not subject to clearing there is a major threat from the combined impact of introduced grasses and fire whereby increased fuel loads lead to increased mortality of adult stems.

# Threatening processes

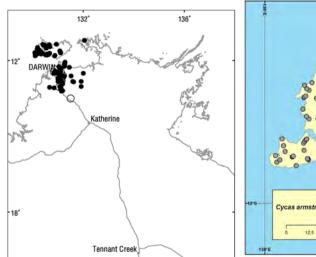
Land clearing due to the expansion of Darwin, rural residential living, horticulture, agriculture and forestry are the major threats to the species. Prime habitat for *C. armstrongii* includes deep loamy soils suitable for horticulture, agriculture and forestry. Mortality in excess of 20% of adult stems per fire event has been recorded when subject to fuel loads of 20 tonnes per hectare (D. Liddle, unpublished data). The exotic pasture species, Gamba Grass *Andropogon gayanus*, supports fuel loads up to 20 tonnes per hectare (Barrow 1995) and the exotic Perennial Mission Grass *Pennisetum polystachyon*, supports fuel loads up to 27 tonnes per hectare (Panton 1993). Both of these exotic species are spreading rapidly and have the potential to extend over the full range of *C. armstrongii*. Fire also reduces seed viability in *C. armstrongii* (D. Liddle, unpublished data).

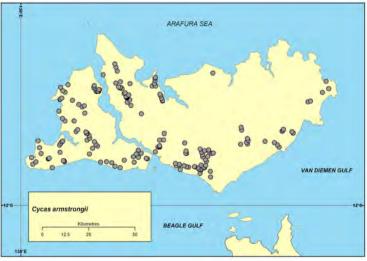
#### Distribution

Endemic to the NT. Known from Gunn Point to Hayes Creek, west to within 50 km of the coast and east to the Mary River Catchment. Also on the Tiwi Islands and Cobourg Peninsula.

#### Conservation reserves where reported:

Berry Springs Nature Park, Blackmore River Conservation Reserve, Casuarina Coastal Reserve, Djukbinj National Park, Garig Gunak Barlu National Park, Holmes Jungle Nature Park, Howard Springs Nature Park, Howard Springs Hunting Reserve, Litchfield National Park and Manton Dam Recreation Area.





Known locations of *Cycas armstrongii* (o = pre 1970; • = post 1970).

# **Conservation objectives and management**

Reservation of high quality habitat, control of exotic grasses and fire management are priority management requirements. Promotion of the value of cycad habitat through the economic returns gained by the sustainable use of this species may assist conservation of the species.

## Compiled by

David Liddle, Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [May 2002]

### References

Anon. (1997) A Management Program for Cycads in the Northern Territory of Australia. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT.

Barrow, P. (1995) The Ecology and Management of Gamba Grass (*Andropogon gayanus* Kunth.) Final Report to the Australian Nature Conservation Agency. Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries.

Panton, W.J. (1993) Changes in Post World War II Distribution and Status of Monsoon Rainforests in the Darwin Area. *Australian Geographer* **24**, 50-59.

# Dendromyza reinwardtiana (Blume ex Kunth) Danser

#### Conservation status

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

# Description

Parasitic vine or scrambling shrub. Leaves alternate, elliptic to obovate, 20-100 mm long, with 3-9 longitudinal primary veins. Separate male and female flowers. Fruit pink, ovoid 6-8 mm long.

Fruiting: Jan, Sep, Nov.



Dendromyza reinwardtiana.

#### **Ecology**

Found in perennial wet vine forest, where it is usually hosted by *Calophyllum soulattri* and *Svzvqium eucalyptoides* subsp. *bleeseri*.

#### Conservation assessment

This species is classified as **Vulnerable** (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- a population size estimated at <1000 individuals, with <20 individuals noted from one site (pers obs. R. Kerrigan); and
- a restricted area of occupancy (estimated to be <20 km²).</li>

## Threatening processes

With a small population size and restricted distribution this species is susceptible to stochastic events. As an epiphyte, loss of habitat via cyclonic events is a potential threat. Changes to hydrology are also a possible threat, although not imminent. Wet riparian vine forests are more susceptible to fire following a reduction in water availability.

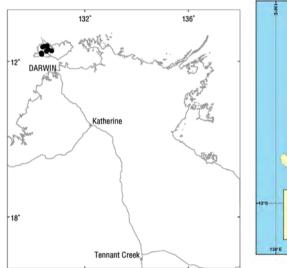
## **Conservation objectives and management**

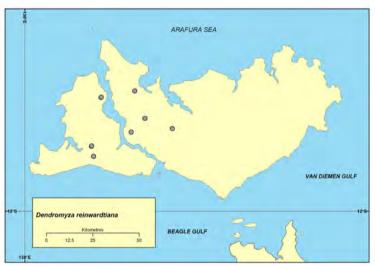
Research is required to establish the status of this population and the extent of its distribution. It is difficult to prescribe recovery actions without knowledge on the dynamics of the population or the associated threats. Management of fire in surrounding savanna is required to ensure that fires do not burn into the vine forests. Collection of propagation material and translocation to a botanic gardens may be required.

#### Distribution

From Sumatra, Luzon to Papua New Guinea. In Australia, known from Cape York and NT. In the Northern Territory the species is only found on Bathurst and Melville Island. It is known from seven sites, three from Bathurst and four from Melville Island.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of *Dendromyza reinwardtiana*.

#### Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Dunlop, C.R., Leach, G.J. and Cowie, I.D. (1995). *Flora of the Darwin Region Vol 2*. Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory, Government Printer of the Northern Territory, Darwin.

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000). *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Elaeocarpus miegei Weibe

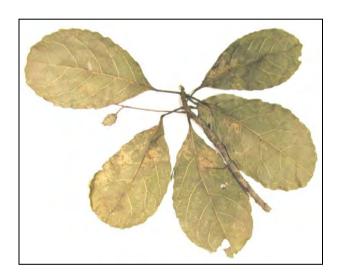
#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. <u>Northern Territory</u> (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Critically Endangered.

# **Description**

Tree to 35 m tall. Occasionally reported to have buttresses. Recorded in Flora of PNG (Coode 1981) to be a variable species. Distinguished from *Elaeocarpus arnhemicus* by longer petals (3 - 3.5 mm in E. arnhemicus and 5 mm long in E. miegei), and leaf shape (elliptic acute and usually acuminate in E. arnhemicus, obovate and obtuse in E. miegei).

Fruiting: Nov.



Elaeocarpus miegei

## **Ecology**

This species grows in permanently moist soils in wet rainforest patches.

#### Conservation assessment

No records of this taxon have been made since 1989, despite concerted search efforts on the Tiwi Islands in 1998-2001. Without any data or detailed knowledge of abundance it is very difficult to assign a category. Given the survey effort applied to this taxon, its habitat on the Tiwi Islands, the non-cryptic nature of the species, and use of the precautionary principle, a status of **Critically Endangered** (under criteria D) is warranted based on a projected number of mature individuals of <50. It is possible that this taxon is not reproducing in the area and has been brought in by frugivorous birds. As such it may qualify as a vagrant or visitor. However, the sole collection in the NT Herbarium, Darwin does record fruit.

Potential threats include cyclonic events, feral animal activity (which may impact on recruitment), changes to hydrology and the subsequent threat from fire.

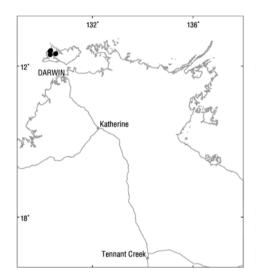
# Conservation objectives and management

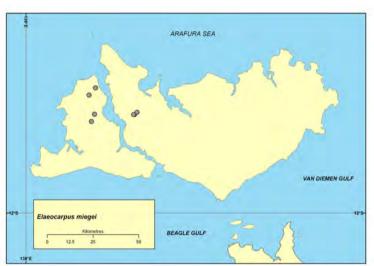
Further research into the status and extent of the population is required.

#### Distribution

The only Australian occurrences of this tall rainforest tree are on the Tiwi Islands. Beyond Australia, it is also known from New Guinea, Malesia and the Solomon Islands. On the Tiwi Islands, it has been recorded from six wet rainforest patches. Only one specimen is lodged at the NT Herbarium in Darwin. Only one tree was recorded for this locality.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Elaeocarpus miegei.

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [January 2002]

### References

Coode, M.J.E. (1981) Elaeocarpaceae. In "Handbooks of the Flora of Papua New Guinea: Volume II" ed. E.E. Henty. Melbourne University Press, Melbourne.

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000). *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# **Endiandra limnophila** B.Hyland.

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

# **Description**

Tree to 20 m tall and 30 cm diameter at breast height but usually smaller. Leaves somewhat bluish (glaucous) below, domatia present. Flowers pale green to cream, turning brown with age, perfumed or odourless. Fruits black and glaucous, 28-38 x 14-15 mm.

Flowering: Dec.



Endiandra limnophila.

#### **Ecology**

Grows in well-developed rain forest. Normally found on swampy or wet situations along creek margins.

### **Conservation assessment**

Although recorded from a relatively large number of sites, there have usually been no more then 5 or 6 individuals observed at any one locality.

Extensive survey of the Tiwi Islands in 2000-02 have yielded no further populations of this species. The assumption has been made that the abundance of individuals is consistent for all localities. This species is classified as **Vulnerable** (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- an area of occupancy, although difficult to determine, estimated to be <20 km² and
- a population size estimated at <1000 individuals.</li>

A small population and restricted distribution makes this species susceptible to stochastic events. Known localities on Bathurst Island have high pig populations that may impact on recruitment. Only being known from very wet, peat-like jungles, this species would easily be affected by changes in hydrology. However, such changes are not anticipated.

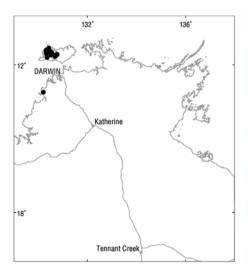
## **Conservation objectives and management**

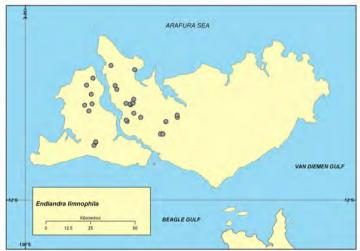
Research is required to establish the status of this population, the extent of its distribution and the impact of feral animals. Fencing is not practical for these areas.

#### Distribution

An Australian endemic, known from the far north of Cape York Peninsula in QLD and the NT. In the NT, it is known from the Tiwi Islands and Channel Point. Recorded in the Rainforest Atlas at approximately 22 localities.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Endiandra limnophila

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Hyland, B.P.M and Whiffin, T. (1993). *Australian Tropical Rain Forest Trees.* An interactive system Volume 2. CSIRO Publications, Melbourne.

Liddle, D.T., Russell-Smith, J., Brock, J., Leach, G.J. and Connors, G.T. (1994) *Atlas of the vascular rainforest plants of the Northern Territory.* Flora of Australia Supplementary Series No. 3, Panther Publishing, Canberra.

# Freycinetia excelsa F. Muell.

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

# **Description**

Small woody climber with stems to 7-8 mm in diameter. Leaf auricles each with a rounded apex and no distinct lobe. Bracts orange to red. Male spikes yellow to creambrown. Fruit strawberry-red. Fruiting: Feb.



Freycinetia excelsa (Photo K. Brennan)

## **Ecology**

Occurs in wet lowland rainforest and spring-fed jungles in sandstone gullies.

#### Conservation assessment

This species is only known from five localities across the Top End where it is a climber in wet jungles of restricted size. The species qualifies as Vulnerable (under criteria D1+2) based on:

• the total number of individuals is estimated to be <1000 and

• a restricted area of occupancy estimated to be <20 km<sup>2</sup>.

# Threatening processes

The impact of feral animals on this species is unknown but pigs in large numbers are likely to affect recruitment either through disturbance or grazing. Populations on Tiwi Islands would be susceptible to severe cyclonic events. This species has not been collected while reproductive despite re-survey throughout the year (K. Brennan, pers. comm.). Changes to hydrology, although none are foreseen, are likely to affect this taxon.

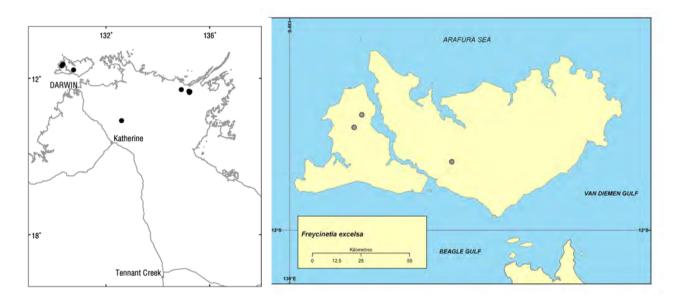
## Conservation objectives and management

Research and further surveys are required to establish the status of these populations, the distribution of the species and the impact of feral animals. Fencing to keep out feral animals would not be practical.

#### Distribution

Known from Australia and New Guinea. In the Northern Territory it has been recorded from five localities from Bathurst Island to the Arafura Swamp.

Conservation reserves where reported: Kakadu National Park.



Known locations of Freycinetia excelsa.

# Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

### References

Stone, B.C. (1982) The Australian Species of *Freycinetia* (Pandanaceae). *Brunonia* **5**: 79-94. Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000). *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Freycinetia percostata Merr. & L.M. Perry.

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

# **Description**

Moderately large woody climber, stems to 2 cm diameter. Leaf auricles each with a distinct apical deltoid lobe, margins distinctly ciliate-spinulose. Spathe yellow-orange to salmon pink. Male spikes pale to orange-brown. Broken fruit crimson. Fruiting: Nov.



Freycinetia percostata

#### **Ecology**

Occurs in wet lowland rainforest and spring-fed jungles in sandstone gullies.

#### **Conservation assessment**

A climber only known from two wet jungles of restricted area across the Top End. The species is considered Vulnerable (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- the total number of individuals estimated to be <1000 and</li>
- a restricted area of occupancy estimated to be < 20 km<sup>2</sup>.

## Threatening processes

The impact of feral animals on this species is unknown but pigs in large numbers are likely to affect recruitment either through disturbance or grazing. Populations on the Tiwi Islands, although inland, would be susceptible to severe cyclonic events. Changes to hydrology, although none are imminent, are likely to affect this taxon.

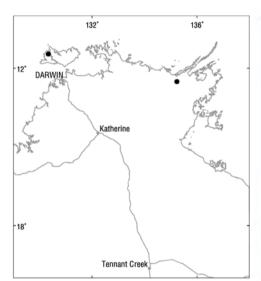
## **Conservation objectives and management**

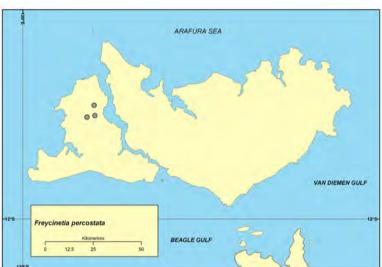
Research and further surveys are required to establish the status of these populations, the distribution of the species and the impact of feral animals. Fencing to keep out feral animals would not be practical.

## **Distribution**

Known from Australia, New Guinea and Solomon Islands. In the Northern Territory it has been recorded a number of times from localities on Bathurst Island and the Arafura Swamp.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Freycinetia percostata

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

### References

Stone, B.C. (1982) The Australian Species of *Freycinetia* (Pandanaceae). *Brunonia* **5**:79-94. Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000). *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Garcinia warrenii F.Muell.

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. <u>Northern Territory</u> (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Endangered.

# **Description**

Tree to 8 m. Leaves simple and opposite. Foot of petiole with extensions or gland-like stipules that run along stem axis. Leaf venation distinctly parallel. Broken petioles and twigs produce a yellow exudate. Flowering: Aug.



Garcinia warrenii

#### **Ecology**

Little is known about the ecology of this species in the NT. In Queensland, it is usually found in well-developed rainforest but also along watercourses in the open.

# **Conservation assessment**

The species has been classified as **Endangered** (under criteria D) based on:

- a small population (<250 individuals) and</li>
- a very restricted distribution.

This population occurs in a remote estuary on Melville Island and appears healthy with a number of saplings present.

## Threatening processes

A cyclonic event is the only imaginable threat as the community is surrounded by an extensive mangrove system and is unlikely to be impacted by weeds, feral animals, clearing or development.

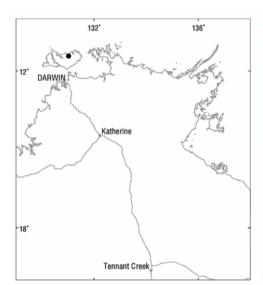
# Conservation objectives and management

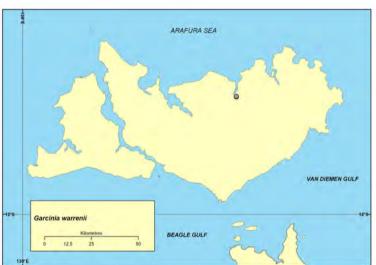
Collection of propagation material and translocation to a botanic gardens would seem the only action available to protect the species from a cyclonic event. Although similar habitats in the area were well surveyed, further survey may yield more populations.

#### Distribution

In the NT, it is only known from a small hill surrounded by mangroves in the Jessie River on Melville Island. It is also found on Cape York Peninsula in Qld and in Papua New Guinea.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Garcinia warrenii

### Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Hyland, B.P.M and Whiffin, T. (1993). *Australian Tropical Rain Forest Trees. An interactive system Volume 2*. CSIRO Publications, Melbourne.

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000) *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT. Palmerston.

# Hoya australis var. oramicola (R.Br. ex J. Traill) P.I.Forst. & Liddle

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. <u>Northern Territory</u> (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

# **Description**

Vine. Leaves with sparse to dense covering of hairs, leaf blade succulent, >10 cm long, leaf margin strongly recurved. Glands (colleters) absent. Latex present. Flowers cream and fleshy.

Flowering: Mar, Jul.

Fruiting: 3 - 4 months after flowering.



Hoya australis var. oramicola.

## **Ecology**

Grows in monsoon vine thicket on red laterite.

### **Conservation assessment**

This subspecies has been classified as Vulnerable (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- an estimated population size of less <1000 individuals (recorded as uncommon where found) and
- a restricted area of occupancy estimated to be <20 km<sup>2</sup>.

## Threatening processes

With a small population size this species is vulnerable to stochastic events such as cyclones. No other immediate threats have been identified.

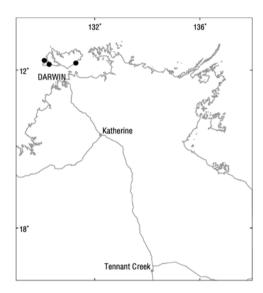
## **Conservation objectives and management**

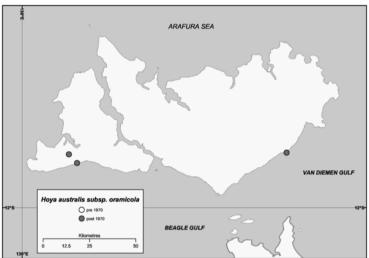
Research into the status of the population and further survey of the extent of the population are required.

## Distribution

Endemic to the NT. Found only on Bathurst and Melville Islands where it is known from just three localities. Recorded in the Rainforest Atlas from 11 collections.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Hoya australis var.oramicola.

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Forster, P.I. and Liddle, D.J. (1996) Hoya. Flora of Australia 28: 231-237.

Liddle, D.T., Russell-Smith, J., Brock, J., Leach, G.J. and Connors, G.T. (1994) *Atlas of the vascular rainforest plants of the Northern Territory*. Flora of Australia Supplementary Series No. 3, ABRS, Canberra.

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000) *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Luisia teretifolia Gaudich.

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

# **Description**

Epiphytic orchid forming straggly clumps of slender, wiry, erect or semi-pendulous stems to 30 cm long. Leaves two to ten per stem, 15 cm x 5 mm, cylindrical in cross section. Flowers about 10 mm across, green with a dark burgundy labellum or lip. Flowering: Feb, Nov – Dec.

Fruiting: Nov.



Luisia teretifolia

#### **Ecology**

This species grows on mangroves and in humid coastal scrubs and rainforests, often on trees that have scaly bark. It usually occurs in situations of bright light.

# **Conservation assessment**

There is very little abundance data available for this species. As an epiphyte with terete leaves, it is recorded as growing in tangled clumps and numbers of individuals are difficult to assess.

There are approximately 10 populations of this species recorded. It is classified as **Vulnerable** (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- a population size estimated to be <1000 mature individuals and
- a restricted area of occupancy estimated to be <20 km<sup>2</sup>

Stochastic events such as cyclones and collecting pressure from horticulturists are the most likely threats to this taxon.

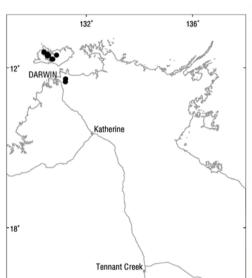
## Conservation objectives and management

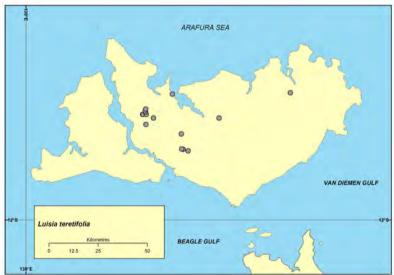
Live material has been given to Darwin Botanic Gardens. Research into the status of the population and further survey are required. Commercial availability of species may relieve any harvesting pressure on wild populations.

### Distribution

Occurs in North East Queensland, NT, New Guinea, Indonesia and Malaysia. In the Northern Territory it is known from approximately 11 localities, nine from Melville Island and two on the mainland (Bankers Jungle and Crocodile Creek in Black Jungle Conservation Reserve).

Conservation reserves where reported: Black Jungle Conservation Reserve.





Known locations of Luisia teretifolia

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Jones, D. L. (1988) *Native Orchids of Australia*. Reed, Australia.

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000) *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.*Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Mapania macrocephala (Gaudich) K.Schum. in Warb.

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. <u>Northern Territory</u> (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

### **Description**

Robust sedge to 2 m tall. Culms 3-angled. Leaves up to 4 m long, blade 3-nerved with distinct secondary nerves, margin spinose. Inflorescence terminal and globose 4-7.5 cm wide.

Distinguishable from young *Pandanus* by m-shaped cross-section of leaf. Fruiting: Feb, Jun, Nov.



Mapania macrocephala

## **Ecology**

Known from wet, spring fed rainforests.

## **Conservation assessment**

Known from four populations on the Tiwi Islands and in Arnhem Land with a total number of individuals estimated to be <250. Area of occupancy estimated to be <20 km².

There is some negative collection bias associated with this taxon because of its similarity to *Pandanus* and the remote areas in which it occurs. More populations may exist but recent and extensive survey efforts in both the Tiwi Islands and Arafura Swamp area have yielded only one additional population.

The negative collection bias associated with this taxon has lead us to downgrade the its status from Endangered to **Vulnerable** (under criteria D1+2).

# Threatening processes

There is a potential threat from pig and buffalo activity through either grazing on juveniles or disturbance. As a species occurring in spring jungles, changes to hydrology could threaten populations. However such changes are not anticipated.

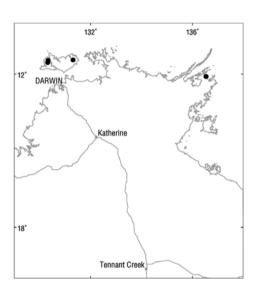
## **Conservation objectives and management**

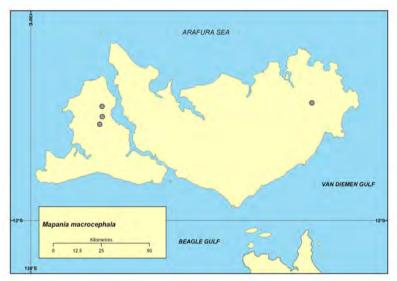
Research into the status of the population and further surveys are required

#### Distribution

Sulawesi, Maluku, Nusa Tenggara, Philippines, New Guinea, North Australia (Qld and NT). In the NT this species is known from four localities: two from Bathurst Island, one from Melville Island and one from northeast Arnhem Land.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Mapania macrocephala

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Liddle, D.T., Russell-Smith, J., Brock, J., Leach, G.J. and Connors, G.T. (1994) *Atlas of the vascular rainforest plants of the Northern Territory*. Flora of Australia Supplementary Series No. 3, ABRS, Canberra.

Simpson, D.A. (1992) *A revision of the genus Mapania*. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000) *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Mitrella D24710 Melville Island

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. <u>Northern Territory</u> (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

## **Description**

A vine to 10 m, forming a semi-weeping shrub when young. Leaves shiny, dark-green above, bluish (glaucous) beneath. Branchlets distinctly zig-zagged. Flowers pinkish-orange, faintly scented. Fruit a multi-seeded berry, pale pink/green. Fruiting: Jun, Sep, Dec.



Mitrella D24710 Melville Island. (Photo K. Brennan)

#### **Ecology**

Recorded as growing in monsoon forest in deep shade associated with perennial springs, in moist leaf litter and stagnant mulch.

#### **Conservation assessment**

This species was very difficult to code as very little data on abundance is available. In some cases it is recorded as common. In one location only 3-4 individuals have been observed (R. Kerrigan pers. obs.). However vines can be difficult to trace and therefore it is difficult to gain an accurate impression of abundance. Extensive survey has not yielded any additional populations of this taxon particularly in the east of the Island.

Based on present knowledge and using the precautionary principle this species is classified as **Vulnerable** (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- a restricted area of occupancy estimated to be <20km² and</li>
- a small population size estimated to be <1000 individuals.

## Threatening processes

Susceptible to stochastic events such as cyclones. As a wet jungle species changes to hydrology could impact on the population but none are imminent. The impact of feral animals on recruitment is unknown.

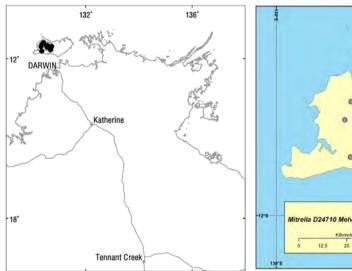
### **Conservation objectives and management**

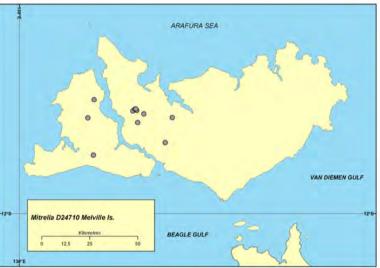
Research into the status and extent of the population are required.

#### Distribution

Recorded as *Desmos* D24710 in the Rainforest Atlas, this undescribed taxon is only known from the Tiwi Islands. In the Rainforest Atlas it is recorded 22 times with approximately six localities recorded in the NT Herbarium database.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Mitrella D24710 Melville Island.

#### Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Liddle, D.T., Russell-Smith, J., Brock, J., Leach, G.J. and Connors, G.T. (1994) *Atlas of the vascular rainforest plants of the Northern Territory.* Flora of Australia Supplementary Series No. 3, ABRS, Canberra.

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000). *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Tarennoidea wallichii (Hook.f.) Tirveng. & Sastre

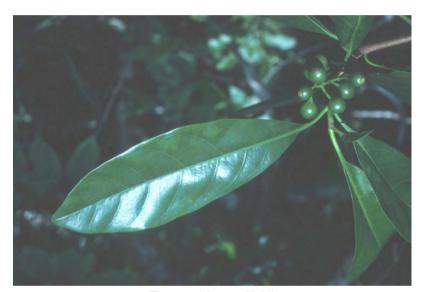
#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Endangered.

# **Description**

Small tree to 5m. Bark grey, smooth throughout. Leaves opposite with interpetiolar stipules, dark green, glossy. Domatia with fringing hairs. Flowers white. Flowering: Oct.

Fruiting: Jul, Oct.



Tarennoidea wallichii. (Photo K. Brennan)

## **Ecology**

It occurs in drier parts of complex evergreen monsoon rainforests.

#### **Conservation assessment**

Collections of this species have been made from three separate localities on Melville Island. Eleven sites were recorded by Fensham and Woinarski in 1992. Extensive survey for this taxon on the Tiwi Islands during 1999-2001 have yielded no additional populations. Using the precautionary principle 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.

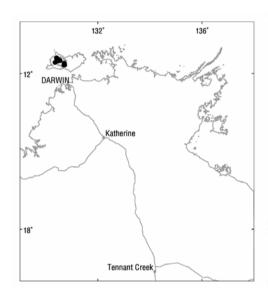
## Conservation objectives and management

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.

#### Distribution

Widespread in Malesia, extending at least as far as India. In the Northern Territory it is only known from three localities on Melville Island.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Tarennoidea wallichii

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

### References

Fensham, R.J. and Woinarski, J.C.Z. (1992). Yawulama: the ecology and conservation of monsoon forest on the Tiwi Islands, Northern Territory. Technical Report Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory, Palmerston.

Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000). *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Thrixspermum congestum (Baill.) Dockrill

### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Vulnerable.

## **Description**

Epiphyte orchid forming small clumps. Stems sparsely branched, flattened to 15 cm long. Leaves 6 to 15, leathery, often yellowish green. Inflorescence to 10 cm long, erect, wiry. Flowers opening all at once, about 15 mm across, cream or white, fragrant. The short-lived flowers last about one day and are produced in sporadic groups. Flowering: Feb.



Thrixspermum congestum

#### **Ecology**

This species grows in lowland rainforests and also on mangroves. It is usually found in humid, airy situations, often in exposed positions on small branches.

### **Conservation assessment**

There is very little abundance data for this species. No further populations were uncovered during extensive surveys on the Tiwi Island between 1998-2001. There is an element of data deficiency with this species as flowers are recorded as lasting approximately 10 hours.

This species qualifies as **Vulnerable** (under criteria D1+2) based on:

- an estimated population size of <1000 individuals and</li>
- an area of occupancy estimated to be <20 km<sup>2</sup>.

This species is an epiphyte and is susceptible to cyclonic events. As a wet jungle taxon, impacts on habitat by feral animal activity or changes in hydrology will affect population numbers although these threats are not considered imminent. As an orchid, pressure from horticultural collectors may be a threat.

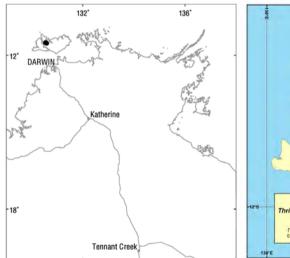
## **Conservation objectives and management**

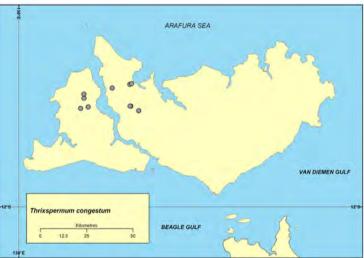
Research into the status and extent of the population are required. Living material has been collected for the Darwin Botanic Gardens. Availability of stock commercially may protect species from horticultural harvesting and stochastic events.

### Distribution

Qld, NT and New Guinea. In the Northern Territory it has been recorded from two localities on Melville Island in the NT Herbarium's database, and six records from the Rainforest Survey (four from Bathurst Is and two from Melville Is). The grid references of the Bathurst Is sites are unknown.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Thrixspermum congestum

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Jones, D. L. (1988) Native Orchids of Australia. Reed, Sydney.

# **Typhonium jonesii** A.Hay

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia</u> (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999): Not listed. Northern Territory (Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000): Endangered.

# **Description**

Cormous perennial herb with annual aerial parts. Leaf blade deeply trilobed, hastate or auriculate at base, segments linear. Spathe or bract of flower pale mauve-cream. Flowering: Dec.



Typhonium jonesii

## **Ecology**

Little is known of the ecology of this species. All three collections were located on rocky or lateritic hills, two from Eucalypt woodlands and one from a wet rainforest margin.

# **Conservation assessment**

This species is only known from three localities on the Tiwi Islands despite specific surveys for this taxon during the wet seasons of 2000 and 2001. This species qualifies as **Endangered** (under criteria B1ab(iii)+2ab(iii); D) based on:

- a small number of locations (<5)
- small number of mature individuals (<250)
- an extent of occurrence <5000 km<sup>2</sup>
- an area of occupancy <500 km<sup>2</sup> and
- a projected decline due the proposed clearing for plantation forestry in the area.

Clearing of habitat for plantation forestry development is a potential threat.

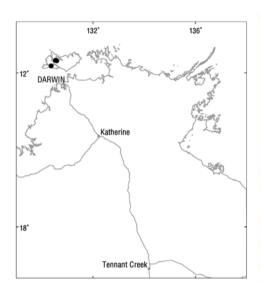
# Conservation objectives and management

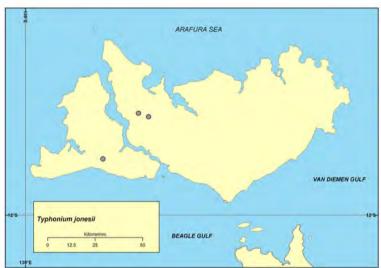
Habitat protection at the known localities is required to maintain the status of the species. Further survey may yield additional populations.

## **Distribution**

Endemic to the NT. It is only known from the Tiwi Islands: one locality on Bathurst Is and two on Melville Is.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of *Typhonium jonesii*.

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

## References

Hay, A. (1993) The genus *Typhonium* (Araceae-Areae) in Australasia. *Blumea* **37**: 345-376. Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000). *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# **Typhonium mirabile** (A.Hay) A.Hay

#### Conservation status

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Endangered.

# **Description**

Small tuberous herb with annual aerial parts. Leaves blue-green, cordate held on or just above the soil surface. Spathe or bract of flower partly buried in soil; part below white cream with grey mottling; aerial part mottled grey-green; spadix limb smoky grey; greenish towards the base. Leaves are produced about 1-2 weeks before flowering. Flowering: Oct.

Fruiting: Dec.



Typhonium mirabile.
(Photo K. Brennan)

# **Ecology**

Very little is known of the ecology of this species. It occurs very sporadically in groups in eucalypt woodland on lateritic and sandy soils, and in patches where the leaf litter is sparse or absent, mainly near the bases of young *Cycas* plants or in shade. Recorded from hillslopes and ridges.

#### **Conservation assessment**

Only known from five locations on Melville Island. The largest population contains around 60 individuals suggesting the total number of mature individuals would be <250. Specific surveys for this taxon on the Tiwi Islands in the wet seasons of 2000 and 2001 yielded only one additional population. Hay (1996) notes that search efforts on Bathurst Island failed to uncover additional populations.

This species qualifies as **Endangered** (under criteria B1ab(iii)+2ab(iii); D) based on:

- an extent of occurrence <5000 km<sup>2</sup>
- an area of occupancy <500 km<sup>2</sup>
- a small population size (<250 mature individuals) and</li>
- a projected decline in quality of habitat of this species in the near future as a result of clearing for expansion of plantation forestry.

This species is vulnerable to clearing for expansion of plantation forestry.

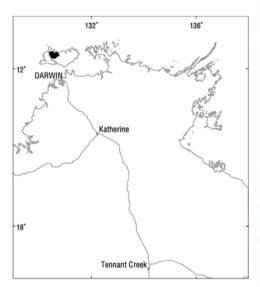
## **Conservation objectives and management**

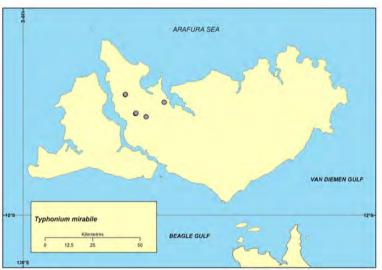
Protection of habitat at known localities is required to maintain the status of the species. Further survey may yield additional localities.

### **Distribution**

Endemic to the NT. This species' entire known range is restricted to five locations in the western half of Melville Island.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Typhonium mirabile.

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

## References

Hay, A. (1992) A new Australian genus of Araceae, with notes on generic limits and biogeography of the Areae. *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society* 109: 427-434.
Hay, A. (1993) The genus *Typhonium* (Araceae-Areae) in Australasia. *Blumea* 37: 345-376.
Woinarski, J., Brennan, K., Hempel, C., Firth, R. and Watt, F. (2000) *Biodiversity Conservation on the Tiwi Islands: Plants, vegetation types and terrestrial vertebrates on Melville Island.* unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston.

# Utricularia subulata ∟

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Endangered.

# **Description**

Small to very small annual, terrestrial bladderwort. Inflorescence erect, solitary, simple or sometimes branched. Flower cleistogamous or chasmogamous 0.5-1cm long, yellow or white or reddish. Upper lip broadly ovate, lower lip deeply 3-lobed. Flowering: Mar, May.



Utricularia subulata. (Photo K. Brennan)

#### **Ecology**

The species occurs in wet open grassland on the margins of drainage depressions.

#### **Conservation assessment**

This species is known from three localities and additional populations were not located in a recent *Utricularia* survey in the Darwin rural area. The McMinns Lagoon population may no longer be extant due to substantial changes in land use in the area.

Using a precautionary approach this species qualifies for **Endangered** (under criteria B1ab(iii)+2ab(iii)) based on:

- an extent of occurrence <5000 km<sup>2</sup>
- an area of occupancy <500 km<sup>2</sup> and
- a projected decline as a result of sandmining and subdivision activity in the Howard Springs area.

Sandmining, changes to hydrology and subdivision activity in the Howard Springs area.

## **Conservation objectives and management**

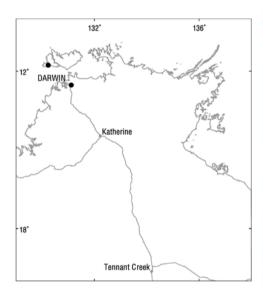
Protection of habitat at known localities is required to maintain the status of the species. Further survey may yield additional localities.

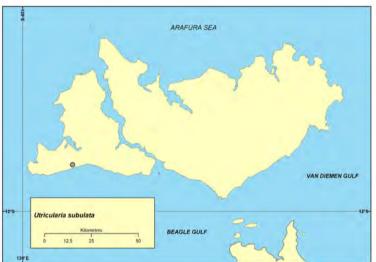
# **Distribution**

Pan-tropical. This is the most widespread of all *Utricularia* species.

In the NT it is known from two localities, one on Bathurst Island and the other at McMinns Lagoon. The latter population was not relocated during a survey in 2001.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Utricularia subulata.

# Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan and Ian Cowie [February 2002]

#### References

Cowie, I. (2002) *Preliminary report on a survey of Utricularia (Lentibulariaceae) in the Howard River-Shoal Bay area.* Unpublished report. Parks and Wildlife Commission of NT, Palmerston

Taylor, P. (1989) *The Genus Utricularia: a taxonomic monograph.* Kew Bulletin Series XIV, HMSO, London.

# Xylopia D30127 Melville Island

#### **Conservation status**

<u>Australia (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999)</u>: Not listed. Northern Territory (*Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2000*): Endangered.

## **Description**

Very little is known of this undescribed taxon. It is now tentatively placed in the genus *Xylopia*, although formerly identified as *Miliusa*. Having only been collected as young, sterile material the taxonomy is still unresolved.

An open shrub or erect sapling to 3 m, with lateral branches perpendicular to stem. Leaves orientated in one plane (distichous) and occasionally wavy on margins.



Xylopia D30127 Melville Island.

#### **Ecology**

Grows in wet vine forests occurring at springs.

#### **Conservation assessment**

Although very little is known of the taxonomy of this species, as an entity it has been known for approximately 10 years. Despite extensive surveys on the Tiwi Islands no additional populations have been found and only one population has recently been recollected. Where collected, only one or two individuals have been recorded despite efforts to search for adults.

Using the precautionary principle this species is classified as **Endangered** (under criteria D) based on the small estimated population size (<250 mature individuals).

With a small population size and restricted distribution this species is vulnerable to stochastic events such as cyclones. As a wet jungle species, changes to hydrology could impact on the population although such changes are not considered imminent. The impact of feral animals on recruitment is unknown.

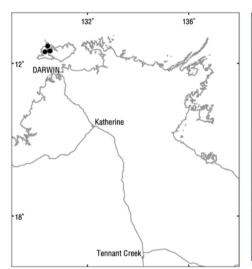
# **Conservation objectives and management**

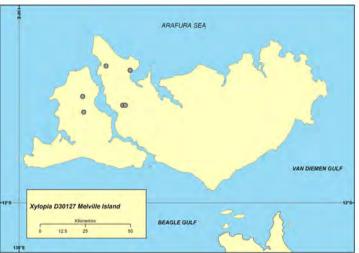
Research into the status of the population and further survey are required

#### Distribution

The distribution of this taxon outside of the NT is unknown and it is possibly an endemic. In the NT, it is only known from five localities on the Tiwi Islands, two on Bathurst and three on Melville Island.

Conservation reserves where reported: None.





Known locations of Xylopia D30127 Melville Island

## Compiled by

Raelee Kerrigan, Ian Cowie, Bryan Baker [February 2002]

#### References

Liddle, D.T., Russell-Smith, J., Brock, J., Leach, G.J. and Connors, G.T. (1994) *Atlas of the vascular rainforest plants of the Northern Territory.* Flora of Australia Supplementary Series No. 3, ABRS, Canberra.