

ADELAIDE AND MOUNT LOFTY RANGES SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Threatened Species Profile

Department for Environment and Heritage

Clover Glycine

PLANT

Glycine latrobeana

AUS	SA	AMLR	Endemism	Life History
V	V	V	-	Perennial

Family LEGUMINOSAE



Photo: © Peter Lang

Conservation Significance

The AMLR distribution is disjunct, isolated from other extant occurrences within SA. Relative to all AMLR extant species, the species' taxonomic uniqueness is classified as 'High'.⁴

Description

Small, perennial herb up to 10 cm tall, with a woody rootstock. Stems are scarcely twining, prostrate and covered in short reflexed, brown hairs. Leaves resemble those of clover with three rounded leaflets, which are hairless on the upper surface and silky hairy underneath. Flowers purple, pea-like, in clusters of eight to twenty flowers on long stalks borne in the leaf axils. Fruit is a pod covered with short hairs. (Curtis and Morris 1975; Johnson and Barker 1998; TSU 2003).⁵

Distribution and Population

Further information:

Also occurs in VIC, NSW and TAS. In SA occurs in NL, SL and SE regions.³

Recent preliminary assessment of populations in South Australia identified 50 subpopulations (J. Quarmby *pers. comm.* 2009). Within the AMLR 29 subpopulations were identified (J. Quarmby *pers. comm.* 2009). Plant abundance may fluctuate greatly each year.¹

Post-1983 AMLR filtered records scattered along the

spine of the MLR, from Mount Crawford, Barossa, near Lobethal, at Belair NP, east of Piccadilly, Mount Bold, near Mount Magnificent CP, Mount Billy CP/Hindmarsh Falls Reserve, near Myponga, Second Valley Forest, Talisker CP and Parsons Beach.⁴

Pre-1983 AMLR filtered records indicate a similar distribution, with additional records from the Mitcham area, McLaren Vale and near Petrel Cove.⁴

Habitat

In the AMLR, occurs in:

- *Eucalyptus viminalis* woodland and open woodland with *E. leucoxylon*, and understoreys ranging from mid-dense to very sparse and dominated by either *Leptocarpus brownii*, or *Acacia pycnantha*, *Leptospermum myrsinoides*, *Gonocarpus elatus*, and *Themeda triandra*; or *Pteridium esculentum*, *Dichondra repens*, *Acaena* sp., and *Ajuga* sp.²
- Eucalyptus goniocalyx grassy woodland, and E. fasciculosa low open forest.⁶

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

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

Biology and Ecology

Flowers from September to November. Reproduction in the wild is infrequent.² Bees are the most likely pollinator (A. Hingston *pers. comm.*).⁵

Hard-seeded; seed is likely to germinate following a fire. Seed likely to remain viable and dormant in the soil for many years. Frequent (e.g. annual) spring-summer fires are likely to reduce populations as seed production will be prevented (Scarlett and Parsons 1993).¹

Aboriginal Significance

Post-1983 records indicate the AMLR distribution occurs in Kaurna, Ngarrindjeri and Peramangk (the northern extent bordering Ngadjuri) Nations.⁴

Threats

Threats include:

- loss or degradation of habitat due to agricultural use and/or grazing; highly palatable to domestic and native animals
- inappropriate fire regimes



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Prepared as part of the Regional Recovery Plan for Threatened Species and Ecological Communities of Adelaide and the Mount Lofty Ranges, South Australia 2009 - 2014



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- weed competition
- human impacts e.g. trampling or vehicular damage
- management practices; some slashing regimes may be beneficial to maintaining open habitat but is unlikely to provide recruitment opportunity.¹

Within the AMLR, the majority of known distribution occurs within 2 km of confirmed or suspected *Phytophthora* infestations.⁴

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

Regional Distribution

ADELAIDE

Map based on filtered post-1983 records.⁴ Note, this map does not necessarily represent the actual species' distribution within the AMLR.

References

Note: In some cases original reference sources are not included in this list, however they can be obtained from the reference from which the information has been sourced (the reference cited in superscript).

1 Carter, O. and Sutter, G. (2005). *Draft Recovery Plan for Glycine latrobeana (Clover Glycine) in South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria 2006- 2010.* Department of Sustainability and Environment, Heidelberg, Victoria.

2 Davies, R. J.-P. (1986). *Threatened Plant Species of the Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island Regions of South Australia.* Conservation Council of South Australia Inc., Adelaide.

3 Department for Environment and Heritage Electronic Flora of South Australia species Fact Sheet: Glycine latrobeana

Further information:

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(Meisn.) Benth. Available from http://www.flora.sa.gov.au/ (accessed July 2007).

4 Department for Environment and Heritage (2007). Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Regional Recovery Pilot Project Database. Unpublished data extracted and edited from BDBSA, SA Herbarium (July 2007) and other sources.

5 Lazarus, E., Lawrence, N. and Potts, W. (2003). *Threatened Flora of Tasmania CD [Online]*. Threatened Species Unit, Department of Primary Industries Water and Environment,, Tasmania. Available from <u>http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/ThreatenedFloraCD/</u> (accessed July 2007).

6 Turner, M. S. (2001). *Conserving Adelaide's Biodiversity: Resources*. Urban Forest Biodiversity Program, Adelaide.

