



# *Amyema scandens*

**Common name** None

## **Conservation status**

*Amyema scandens* (Tieghem) Danser is listed as an **Endangered Species** on Schedule 1 of the New South Wales *Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995*. This species is also listed as an **Endangered Species** on Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth *Endangered Species Protection Act, 1992*.

## **General description**

*A. scandens* is a mistletoe with external runners and distinctive elliptic to circular leaves. Flowering occurs in the summer and the fruit are small and pink to red in colour. An illustration of *A. scandens* can be found in Quirico (1992).

## **Scientific description**

*A. scandens* (Loranthaceae) is a hairless (except for flowers) mistletoe with external runners. Leaves occur in whorls of 3 or 4 or opposite, are elliptic to circular, 2.5-8cm long, 2-8cm wide, with a rounded apex, thick base and obscure venation.

The leaf stem is thick and 5-10mm long. Inflorescence a pedunculate umbel of triads, all flowers sessile; peduncle 10-20mm long; rays of umbel 5-8, 3-8mm long; bracts c. 1mm long. Corolla 30-38mm long, 5-merous. Fruit ovoid, c. 1mm long, pink to red (Quirico 1992).

There are 13 species of *Amyema* which occur within New South Wales. *A. scandens* is not easily confused with any other *Amyema* with its main distinguishing character being its elliptic to circular leaves.

## **Distribution**

*A. scandens* is endemic to New South Wales and is known from only one location. This population occurs within a remnant rainforest fragment on cleared farmland within the Rocky Creek area, north of Lismore, northern New South Wales (Sheringham & Westaway 1995).

## **Recorded occurrences in conservation reserves**

*A. scandens* is not known to occur within any conservation reserves (NPWS 1999).

## **Habitat**

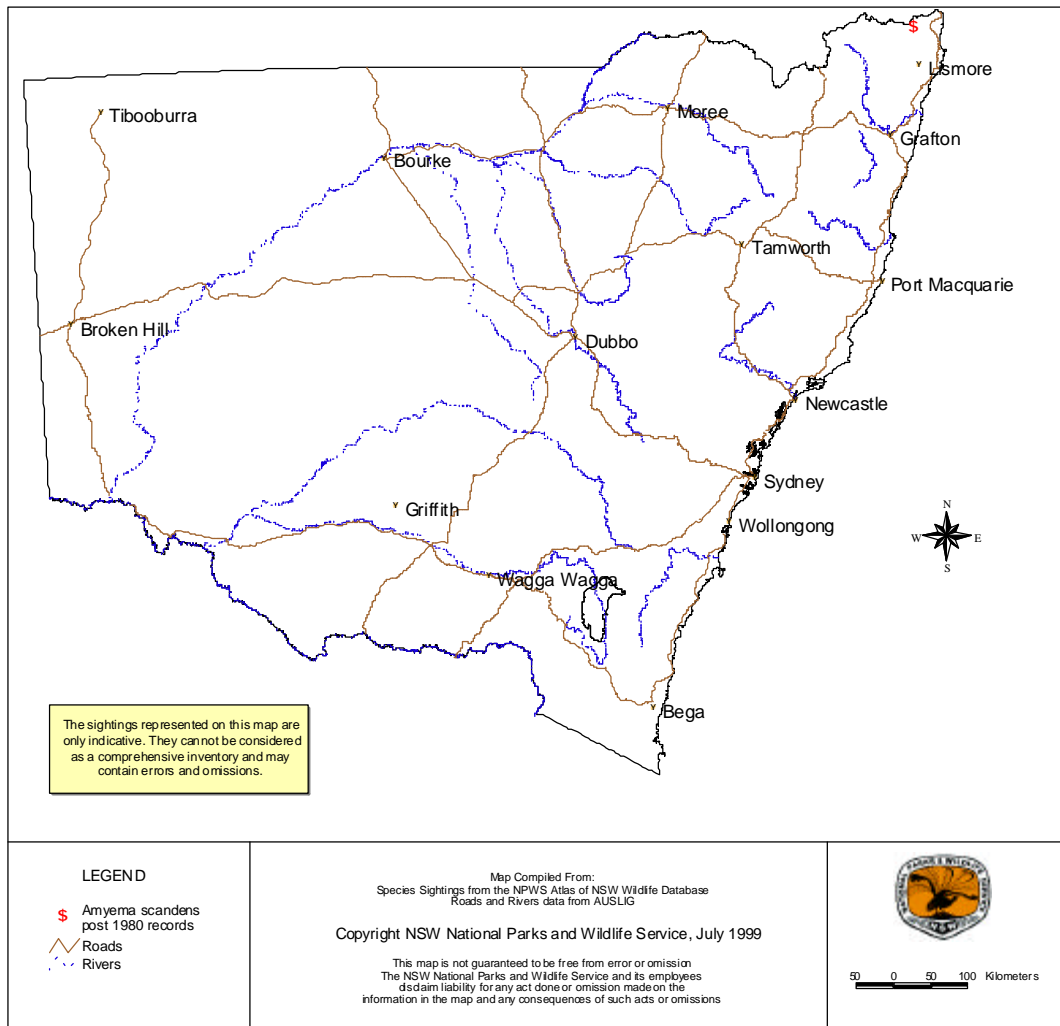
*A. scandens* is parasitic on the Rosewood, *Dysoxylum fraserianum*. The species occurs within a remnant rainforest fragment on cleared undulating farmland at the foothills of the Nightcap Range (Quirico 1992; RBG Herbarium Database Feb 1999).

## **Ecology**

Very little is known of the ecology of *A. scandens*. It is parasitic on Rosewood, *Dysoxylum fraserianum* and flowers in summer (Quirico 1992).

## **Threats**

Historical clearing has reduced the habitat of this species. Such land clearing for agriculture is still the main threat to *A. scandens*.



NPWS records of *Amyema scandens* in NSW

### Management

In order to ensure the persistence of *A. scandens*, the rainforest fragment which supports the species needs to be protected. The survival of *A. scandens* depends upon survival of its host *Dysoxylum fraserianum* and management should be directed towards ensuring host survival.

Further clearing should be avoided and weed invasion from the surrounding farmland needs to be monitored and controlled if necessary.

### Recovery plans

There is currently no recovery plan for *A. scandens*.

## References

NPWS 1999. Atlas of NSW Wildlife. NPWS, Hurstville.

Quirico 1992. *Loranthaceae* in G. J. Harden (Ed) Flora of New South Wales Vol 3. 46-55. New South Wales University Press, Kensington.

RBG Herbarium Database 1999. Royal Botanical Gardens Herbarium Database February 1999.

Sheringham P. and Westaway J. 1995. Significant vascular plants of upper north-eastern New South Wales. A report by the NSW NPWS to the Natural Resources Audit Council. NSW NPWS, Hurstville.

## For further information contact

Threatened Species Unit, Northern Directorate Phone 02 6651946.

**General enquiries:** 43 Bridge St Hurstville NSW 2220 Phone 1300 36 1967 or 02 9585 6333.

Web site [www.npws.nsw.gov.au](http://www.npws.nsw.gov.au)



NSW  
NATIONAL  
PARKS AND  
WILDLIFE  
SERVICE

© September 1999.

---

### Important Disclaimer

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication, the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service disclaims any responsibility or liability in relation to anything done or not done by anyone in reliance upon the publication's content.

---