

NSW SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Preliminary Determination

The Scientific Committee, established by the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (the Act), has made a Preliminary Determination to support a proposal to remove *Caladenia porphyrea* D.L.Jones from the Schedules of the Act by omitting reference to this species from Part 1 of Schedule 1 (Endangered species). The omission of species from the Schedules is provided for by Part 2 of the Act.

The Scientific Committee has found that:

1. *Caladenia porphyrea* D.L.Jones (family Orchidaceae) has been described by Jones (1999) as: "Hirsute, terrestrial herb growing singly or in small groups. Leaf narrowly linear, 15-25 cm long, 0.25-0.45 cm wide, erect, dark green, base reddish, apex acute; trichomes sparse, c. 0.7 mm long, transparent, glandular, patent. Scape 20-35 cm tall, very slender, wiry, densely covered with glandular trichomes similar to those on the leaf. Sterile bracts closely sheathing, oblong-obovate, 8-12 mm long, 3-4 mm wide, subacute, externally hirsute. Floral bracts closely sheathing, narrowly oblong, 6-7 mm long, 3-3.5 mm wide, obtuse, externally hirsute. Flower solitary, 30-40 mm diam., usually bright pink to purplish pink internally, occasionally white, externally greenish white to brownish purple; labellum white, pink or purplish, heavily barred with reddish purple, the apex orange; basal calli orange, rest white; column greenish, heavily stained and barred with red; floral odour undetectable. Tepals moderately glandular externally, lacking a central dorsal band; dorsal sepal erect to shallowly recurved; lateral sepals porrect to obliquely decurved, slightly divergent; petals widely spreading. Dorsal sepal narrowly elliptic to narrowly obovate, 13-16 mm long, 3-4 mm wide, internally glabrous, subacute. Lateral sepals lanceolate, 17-20 mm long, 5-6.5 mm wide, internally glabrous, subacute. Petals lanceolate, 16-19 mm long, 3.5-5 mm wide, acute to acuminate. Labellum hinged at the base. Lamina prominently 3-lobed, 8-11 mm long, 8-10 mm wide, erect in the proximal third then curved forwards; apex recurved; lateral lobes c. 3.8 mm wide, erect but not column-embracing, entire; mid-lobe ovate-deltate, 2-5.4 mm long, c. 3.5 mm wide; marginal calli 4-6 pairs, to 1 mm long, narrowly linear, straight or curved. Lamina calli in 2 rows, extending to the base of the mid-lobe, the basal calli distinct from the rest; basal calli 6 or 8, c. 2.3 mm long; stalk c. 1 mm long, white; head ovoid, c. 1.8 mm long, orange; main lamina calli 8 to 12 pairs, crowded, white, the apex of distal ones hooked forwards; longest lamina calli c. 1.4 mm long; stalk c. 1 mm long, white; head clavate. Column 9.5-11 mm long, c. 3.5 mm wide, porrect from the ovary, narrowly winged; central ridge 1 mm wide. Anther c. 2.3 mm long, 1.6 mm wide, green, densely papillate; rostrum prominent. Pollinia 4, c. 1.7 mm long, roughly deltate in shape, deeply lobed, white, mealy. Stigma more or less circular, c. 1.8 mm wide, sunken, green."
2. Jones (1999) stated that this species was endemic to New South Wales and listed specimens collected from near Wyong at Wyrabalong National Park and Norah Head.
3. The species was listed under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* in 2006.
4. Examination of plant descriptions and herbarium specimens has indicated that *Caladenia porphyrea* is conspecific with *C. quadrifolia* (R.S.Rogers) D.L.Jones (M. Duretto *in litt.* August 2015, M. Clements *in litt.* February 2015), a widespread species not listed under

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the Act. The Commonwealth Threatened Species Scientific Committee has decided to delist *C. porphyrea* (see Threatened Species Scientific Committee 2015).

5. In view of the above the Scientific Committee is of the opinion that *Caladenia porphyrea* D.L.Jones is no longer eligible to be listed as an Endangered species in Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Act.

Dr Mark Eldridge
Chairperson
Scientific Committee

Exhibition period: 04/12/15 – 29/01/16

Proposed Gazettal date: 04/12/15

References:

Jones DL (1999) Eight new species of *Caladenia* (Orchidaceae) from eastern Australia. *The Orchadian* **13**, 4–24.

Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2015) Listing Advice *Caladenia porphyrea*, magenta orchid.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/55117-listing-advice.pdf>

(accessed 21 Sept. 2015).