

Advice to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage from the Threatened Species Scientific Committee (TSSC) on Amendments to the list of Threatened Species under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act)

1. Scientific name, common name (where appropriate), major taxon group

Acacia perangusta (Eprapah Wattle)

The *List of Agreed Australian Vascular Plant Names*, a national list endorsed by the Council of Heads of Australian Herbaria (CHAH), no longer recognises *Acacia perangusta* as a species. It is considered to be part of the more widespread *Acacia fimbriata* (Brisbane Golden Wattle or Fringed Wattle).

2. Description

The Eprapah Wattle was previously considered to be a species in its own right, but is now considered to be an extreme form of another species, the Brisbane Golden Wattle. The Brisbane Golden Wattle is a small tree or rounded shrub up to 7 m high and 6 m across. It has profuse yellow, ball-shaped flowers which occur in spring.

3. National Context

Pedley (1980) previously recognised *Acacia perangusta* as a separate species from *Acacia fimbriata*. It was reported to be restricted to Queensland, to the banks of small streams 25-35 kilometres south and south-east of Brisbane and on the Burrum River, north of Maryborough in Queensland.

Collections of plants since that time indicate that *Acacia perangusta* is not a species in its own right, but represents natural variation within the species *Acacia fimbriata* and is therefore part of that species. *Acacia fimbriata* is a widespread plant in eastern Australia, occurring from near Rockhampton in Queensland to near Nowra in New South Wales (Pedley 2004).

Acacia fimbriata is not listed as threatened under the *Queensland Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

4. How judged by TSSC in relation to the EPBC Act criteria.

TSSC judges the Eprapah Wattle eligible for de-listing from the EPBC Act for the following reasons:

The Eprapah Wattle is no longer recognised as a valid species but is considered to be part of the Brisbane Golden Wattle. Studies of recent collections of plants have concluded that the Eprapah Wattle should not be maintained as a taxonomic unit at any rank as it is merely an extreme form of the Brisbane Golden Wattle (Pedley 2004).

The Brisbane Golden Wattle is a widespread plant and occurs from near Rockhampton in Queensland to near Nowra in New South Wales (Pedley 2004), and is not listed under any State or Australian Government threatened species legislation.

The TSSC considers that the Eprapah Wattle is no longer a species for the purposes of the EPBC Act.

Therefore, the Eprapah Wattle is **not eligible** for listing under the EPBC Act.

5. Recommendation

TSSC recommends that the list referred to in section 178 of the EPBC Act be amended by **deleting** from the list in the **vulnerable** category:

Acacia perangusta (**Eprapah Wattle**)

Publications used to assess the nomination

Pedley, L. 1980. *Acacia fimbriata*, in A revision of Acacia in Queensland. *Austrobaileya* 1: 235-337.

Pedley, L. 2004. Reduction of *Acacia perangusta* to the synonymy of *A. fimbriata*. *Austrobaileya* 6: 983.