

## SPECIES MANAGEMENT PROFILE

*Hydrocotyle laxiflora* stinking pennywort

**Group:** Magnoliophyta (flowering plants), Magnoliopsida (dicots), Apiales, Araliaceae

**Status:** *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995:* **endangered**  
*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999:* Not listed

**Endemic:** Found in Tasmania and elsewhere

**Status:**

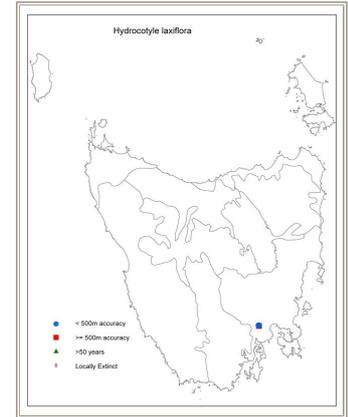


*Hydrocotyle laxiflora* (stinking pennywort) is a perennial herb known in Tasmania from only 13 plants/patches occupying 0.24 ha in a single location at Queens Domain in Hobart. The species grows in sheoak woodlands and grassy eucalypt woodlands and requires fire or other disturbance to prevent canopy closure and reduce competition from other species. The species is threatened by weeds and because of the small population size is at risk from chance events such as damage from vegetation management activities including herbicide application and dumping of slash. Any change in rainfall patterns associated with climate change may not favour the persistence of this edge of range occurrence of the species.

A complete species management profile is not currently available for this species. Check for further information on this page and any relevant Activity Advice.

### Key Points

- Important:** Is this species in your area? Do you need a permit? Ensure you've covered all the issues by checking the Planning Ahead page.
- Important:** Different threatened species may have different requirements. For any activity you are considering, read the Activity Advice pages for background information and important advice about managing around the needs of multiple threatened species.



### Surveying

Key	Survey reliability more info
<b>M</b>	Best time to survey
M	Potential time to survey
M	Poor time to survey
M	Non-survey period

To ensure you follow the law - check whether your survey requires a permit. Always report any new records to the Natural Values Atlas, or send the information direct to the Threatened Species Section. Refer to the Activity Advice: Surveying page for background information.

<i>Hydrocotyle laxiflora</i>	Spring			Summer				Autumn				Winter												
stinking pennywort	S	S	O	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	D	J	J	F	F	M	M	A	A	M	M	J	J	J	J	A	A

- Surveys for this perennial herb are best undertaken during its peak flowering period, late October to mid-December, ideally on warm days to allow the species' distinctive odour to assist in detection. The species may also be identified at other times of the year using vegetative characteristics, though plants may die back in dry weather. As *Hydrocotyle laxiflora* is a known coloniser of bare ground or disturbed areas, areas of suitable habitat burnt in the previous autumn should be preferentially targeted for survey, and detection of the species is easier in relatively sparse regrowth.
- In Tasmania, *Hydrocotyle laxiflora* is restricted to the northern flanks of the Queens Domain in Hobart where it occurs in sheoak woodlands and grassy eucalypt woodlands with open canopies.

### Further information

Check also for listing statement or notesheet pdf above (below the species image).

**Cite as:** Threatened Species Section (2025). *stinking pennywort (Hydrocotyle laxiflora): Species Management Profile for Tasmania's Threatened Species Link*. <https://www.threatenedspecieslink.tas.gov.au/Pages/Hydrocotyle-laxiflora.aspx> Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania. Accessed on 14/9/2025.

**Contact details:** Threatened Species Section, Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, GPO Box 44, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, 7001. Phone (1300 368 550).

**Permit:** A permit is required under the Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* to 'take' (which includes kill, injure, catch, damage, destroy and collect), keep, trade in or process any specimen or products of a listed species. Additional permits

may also be required under other Acts or regulations to take, disturb or interfere with any form of wildlife or its products, (e.g. dens, nests, bones). This may also depend on the tenure of the land and other agreements relating to its management.