

SPECIES MANAGEMENT PROFILE

Thelymitra inflata inflated sun-orchid

Group: Magnoliophyta (flowering plants), Liliopsida (monocots), Orchidales, Orchidaceae

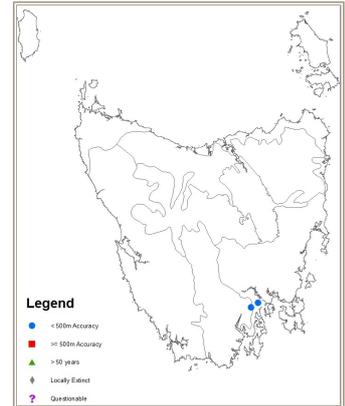
Status: *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995:* **endangered**
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999: Not listed

Endemic: Found in Tasmania and elsewhere

Status:



Thelymitra inflata (inflated sun-orchid) is a deciduous terrestrial orchid known in Tasmania from two locations near Hobart, with only two records, both made in the early 1990s, despite numerous surveys in potential habitat and a search of the Ridgeway site almost every year since it was discovered in 1992. While abundance data is scarce, it is likely that the species occupies less than 1 ha and consists of fewer than 250 individuals in total, putting the species at a high risk of local extinctions due to the small size of sites. The species grows in areas of slightly impeded drainage in open forest and woodland on clay-loam soils. Likely threats include inadvertent losses through vegetation clearance or land management changes, inappropriate fire regimes, and climate change.



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
M	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>Thelymitra inflata</i>	Spring					Summer					Autumn					Winter								
inflated sun-orchid	S	S	O	O	N	N	D	D	J	J	F	F	M	M	A	A	M	M	J	J	J	J	A	A

- Flowers are required for the identification and to aid detection of this ground orchid which dies back to subterranean tubers after flowering. Surveys for *Thelymitra inflata* should be undertaken during its peak flowering period, late September to early December, ideally in hot weather when its flowers are most likely to be open. The species may not emerge every year.
- Thelymitra inflata* usually grows in dry to moist woodlands and open forests, often in disturbed, winter-wet sites on clay loam soils, 10 to 350 m in altitude.

Further information

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

Cite as: Threatened Species Section (2025). *inflated sun-orchid (Thelymitra inflata): Species Management Profile for Tasmania's Threatened Species Link*. <https://www.threatenedspecieslink.tas.gov.au/Pages/Thelymitra-inflata.aspx> Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania. Accessed on 4/8/2025.

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.