

Why is the *Banksia vincentia* under threat?

The decline of *Banksia vincentia* is not entirely understood. The small population size means it is very vulnerable to events such as fire. Threats from a lack of genetic variation are not understood but are likely to be a factor. In addition, the presence of the introduced plant pathogen *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is known to occur in the area and has been implicated in the loss of at least one plant.

What is being done to save *Banksia vincentia*?

Saving *Banksia vincentia* requires a collaborative effort from a range of people. A number of actions are being undertaken to conserve the species including:

- developing populations at a number of botanic garden locations and long-term storage of seed
- research into the susceptibility of the species to *Phytophthora cinnamomi*
- managing threats such as inappropriate fire regimes and weeds
- a plan to reintroduce the species back into the wild.

The *Banksia vincentia* recovery team

The *Banksia vincentia* recovery team is a partnership of organisations made up of government officers, botanic garden horticulturists and scientists. The partnership includes NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Australian National Botanic Garden, Australian Botanic Garden at Mt Annan, Booderee Botanic Garden and Wollongong Botanic Garden.

Find out more

If you find *Banksia vincentia*

If you find what you think may be *Banksia vincentia*, please take a photo and contact David Bain at OEH on 4224 4162 or David.Bain@environment.nsw.gov.au

You can find out more about *Banksia vincentia* and other threatened species at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspecies

Photos

Cover: K.McClelland/OEH

Page 2: D.Bain/OEH

Page 4: D.Bain/OEH

This page: K.McClelland/OEH

Published by Office of Environment and Heritage
59–61 Goulburn Street, Sydney 2000

Phone: (02) 9995 5000 (switchboard)

Fax: (02) 9995 5999

TTY: (02) 9211 4723

Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

ISBN 978-1-76039-753-1

OEH2017/0168 May 2017

Printed using environmentally sustainable practices



Help us find
Australia's
rarest banksia



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

Banksia vincentia

Critically endangered

Help us find new populations

Banksia vincentia is possibly Australia's rarest banksia. We know of less than 10 plants growing in the wild.

Banksia vincentia grows to less than one metre and is about twice as wide as it is tall. It grows from a woody underground growth called a lignotuber. The leaves are whorled, which means they circle the stem, or alternate, and are 12–47mm long and 2–6.5mm wide. The leaves may or may not have several teeth or undulations at the end and underneath the leaves are densely covered in short hair.

The banksia flowers are actually large clusters of individual small yellow to dark red flowers, the colours can be quite variable and the old banksia cones can remain on the plant for several seasons.



The whorled leaves of the *Banksia vincentia*

Similar species

There are two similar banksia species on the south coast, *Banksia spinulosa* (hairpin banksia) and *Banksia paludosa* (swamp banksia).

Banksia spinulosa is often much larger than *Banksia vincentia*, it is typically multi-stemmed and up to 3m in height. It has longer (30–100mm) and thinner (1–10mm) leaves but can have similar coloured flowers to *Banksia vincentia*.

Banksia paludosa is similar to *Banksia vincentia*, being low and spreading and it grows from a lignotuber. However *Banksia paludosa* has much longer (40–130mm) and wider (10–30mm) leaves and a more golden flower compared to *Banksia vincentia*.

Where might you find *Banksia vincentia*?

Banksia vincentia is currently found in open heathland with grasses and sedges on coastal sands over clay on sandstone. It could potentially occur in many places in the Shoalhaven, albeit in small localised areas.

Why are we looking for *Banksia vincentia*?

Very little is known about the *Banksia vincentia*. Since we currently only know of a single population, this means the continued survival of the species is very tenuous. If we could find more populations of the species we would add significantly to our knowledge about the conservation needs of the species.

Opportunities for landholders

We are searching for new populations and would like to help landowners and land managers secure the species in the wild. Landholders will be given an opportunity to seek funding and partner with the *Banksia vincentia* recovery team to help support the conservation of the species if found on their land.

The similar hairpin banksia (*Banksia spinulosa*)



The similar swamp banksia (*Banksia paludosa*)



The critically endangered *Banksia vincentia* is currently found in open heathland

