



Delicate pomaderris

Pomaderris delicata

Critically endangered

Target: supplement the wild population through translocation and monitor its success

Through this *Saving our Species* (SoS) project, propagation techniques were developed in collaboration with the Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan to enable the translocation of the delicate pomaderris (*Pomaderris delicata*) into two nature reserves. These techniques have continued to be used in the propagation of other threatened *Pomaderris* species. From 2015 to 2019, approximately 1000 cutting-grown plants were planted to supplement the natural population, but only 107 survived at the last count. Translocated plants had flowered and produced seeds but did not survive for very long. In particular, 2019–20 saw a substantial reduction in survival, which is assumed to be associated with drought. However, in the past year, highly favourable climatic conditions have promoted germination at all sites; and a survey in spring 2021 may well detect a fresh cohort of seedlings from our translocated plants.

This small shrub produces very few seed and is known from only two sites between Goulburn and Braidwood. One of these sites was damaged by roadwork and the population at the other site has declined considerably in the last decade. Future research will focus on improving the species' survival by using seeds instead of cuttings to grow plants for translocation and investigating future translocation sites that are more suitable for this species. This project is led by SoS in partnership with the Australian Botanic Garden who collected cuttings for propagation, developed techniques to grow plants, established a seed orchard and assisted with planting. Local volunteers helped in the initial plantings and continue to check on populations. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is involved with the translocation of plants into the Pomaderris Nature Reserve and Nadgigomar Nature Reserve.

Trajectory: fluctuating

The long-term natural population is considered to be fluctuating, noting that there was some decline during the 2017–2019 drought of both planted and natural individuals. The translocation plantings are supporting the overall population.

