

NSW SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

**This Determination has been superseded by the
2010 Determination (Critically endangered species listing)**

Final Determination

The Scientific Committee, established by the Threatened Species Conservation Act, has made a Final Determination to list the shrub, *Lasiopetalum behrii* F. Muell., as an ENDANGERED SPECIES on Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Act. Listing of endangered species is provided for by Part 2 of the Act.

The Scientific Committee found that:

1. *Lasiopetalum behrii* F. Muell. (Sterculiaceae), is a recently discovered species in New South Wales (Harden, G.J. & Murray, L.J. 2000 *Supplement to Flora of New South Wales Volume 1*, University of NSW Press). The species is known also from north-west Victoria and South Australia.
2. *Lasiopetalum behrii* is a 'shrub to 1.5 m high. Leaves narrow-oblong to narrow-elliptic, or rarely ovate, 4-9 cm long, 0.5-3 cm wide, more or less glabrous above and rusty tomentose below, with main vein and secondary veins visible; margins more or less recurved. Petiole 3-10 mm long. Cymes mostly 2-8 flowered; bracteoles 3, stellate-hairy, 2-3 mm long; calyx lobes 5-8 mm long, the inner surface pink and glabrous or with a few scattered hairs, the outer surface white and densely stellate-hairy; petals 1-1.5 mm long, red -brown; anthers c. 2 mm long, red-brown; style glabrous. Capsule 4-8 mm diam., densely hairy. Flowers late winter to spring.' (Harden & Murray 2000).
3. In New South Wales, *Lasiopetalum behrii* is known from a single location near Pooncarie, in the South Far Western Plains of New South Wales (Clements, A.M., Rodd, T., Moore, R.J., Crane, A.G. and Simpson, J. 2000, Surveys of areas having potentially high botanical diversity near Pooncarie, South Far West Plains. *Cunninghamia* 6, 611-643.) It occurs in mallee and red dune/swale country (Harden & Murray 2000). The species is not known to occur in any New South Wales conservation reserve.
4. Threats to *Lasiopetalum behrii* include clearing of vegetation for agriculture, grazing, competition with exotic plants and mineral sands exploration and mining. Further, the species' very small and localized extent in NSW leaves it vulnerable to stochastic events.
5. In view of the above points, the Scientific Committee is of the opinion that *Lasiopetalum behrii* is likely to become extinct in nature in New South Wales unless the circumstances and factors threatening its survival or evolutionary development cease to operate.

Dr Chris Dickman
Chairperson
Scientific Committee

Gazette date: 19/04/02

This species was provisionally listed as an endangered species on 23/02/2001