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Narrow curved-leaf grevillea

E n d a n g e r e d F l o r a o f W e s t e r n A u s t r a l i a

If you think you have seen this plant, please call CALM Mundaring District on (08) 9295 1955 or Perth District on (08) 9405 1222.

Commonly known as narrow curved-leaf grevillea, *Grevillea curviloba* subsp. *incurva* is a ground-hugging or, when mature, erect shrub with greyish-green leaves. The leaves are 1.8 to 5.2 centimetres long, and have 3 to 5 strongly incurved, narrowly linear lobes, 7 to 20 millimetres long. Inflorescences are 1 to 3 centimetres long by 3 centimetres wide and are on short stalks, usually in the leaf axils. Flowers are 7 to 10 millimetres long by 0.5 millimetres wide, creamy white, and appear from September to October.

Narrow curved-leaf grevillea differs from curved-leaf grevillea (*Grevillea curviloba* subsp. *curviloba*) in having narrower leaf lobes that are prominently incurved. The name *incurva* refers to the incurved leaf lobes.

Narrow curved-leaf grevillea is confined to an area between Muchea and Badgingarra. It grows in open heath in winter-wet areas of sand over limestone, or ironstone at sites with a high water table.

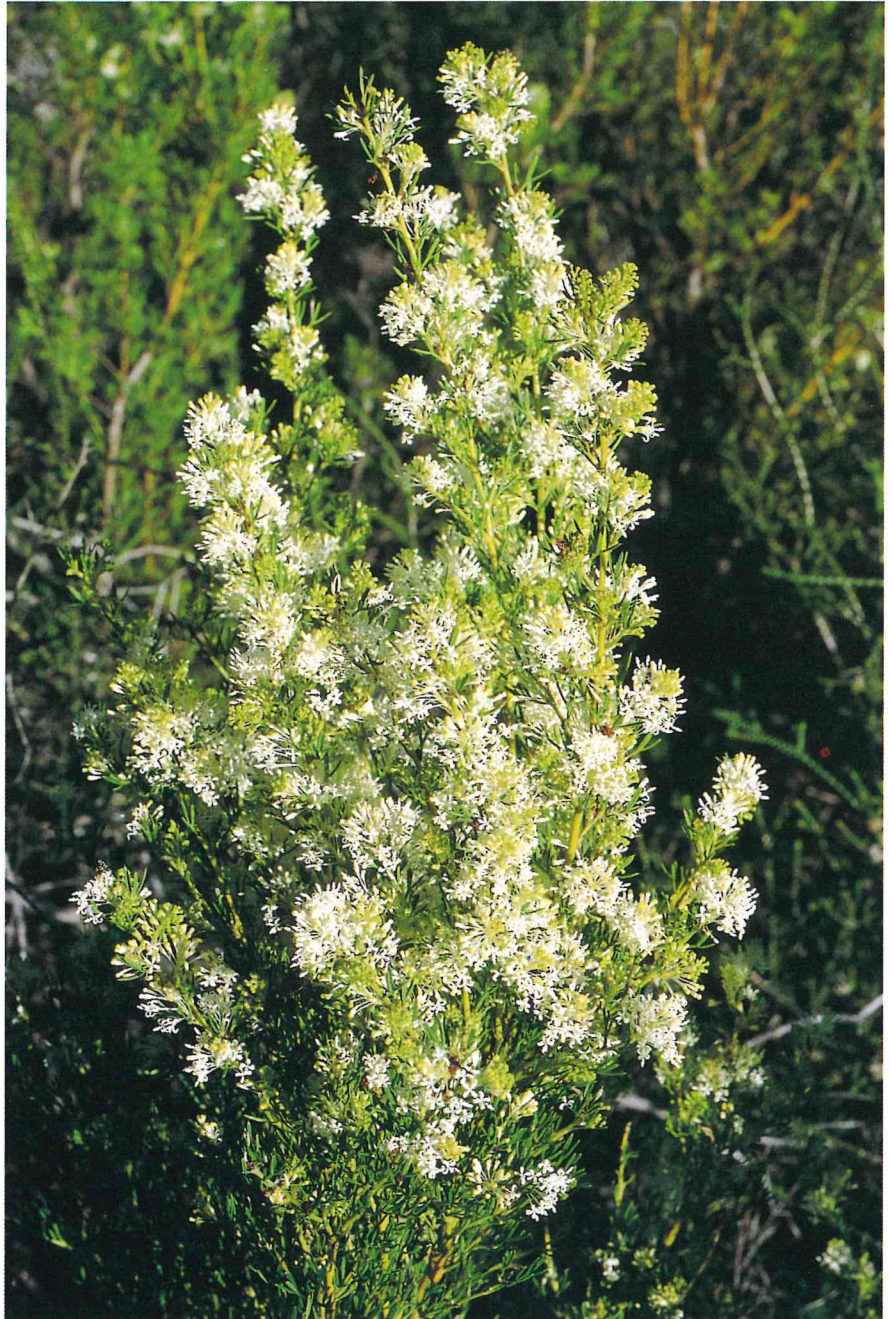
Due to the extreme fragmentation of populations and the decline in quality of the habitat, the subspecies was ranked as Critically Endangered in March 1999.

CALM has set up the Swan Region Threatened Flora Recovery Team to coordinate recovery actions that address threats to the survival of the subspecies in the wild (see overleaf).

Threats include continued clearing, weed invasion and road and rail maintenance.

The subspecies is currently only known from 13 populations, most of which consist of less than ten plants. CALM is keen to know of any others.

If unable to contact the district office on the above number, please phone CALM's Wildlife Branch on (08) 9334 0422.



Narrow curved-leaf grevillea in full flower. Photo – Andrew Brown

Recovery of a Species



CALM is committed to ensuring that Critically Endangered taxa do not become extinct in the wild. This is done through the preparation of a Recovery Plan (RP) or Interim Recovery Plan (IRP), which outlines the recovery actions that are required to urgently address those threatening processes most affecting the ongoing survival of threatened taxa in the wild and begin the recovery process.

IRPs are prepared by CALM and implemented by Regional or District Recovery Teams consisting of representatives from CALM, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, community groups, private landowners, local shires and various government organisations.

Narrow curved-leaf grevillea

Recovery actions that have been, and will be, progressively implemented to protect the subspecies include:

Protection from current threats: control of weeds; conducting further surveys; and regular monitoring of the health of each population.

Protection from future threats: the development of both a translocation proposal and a fire management strategy; collection and storage of seed at CALM's Threatened Flora Seed Centre; maintenance of live plants away from the wild (in botanical gardens); and researching the biology and ecology of the subspecies. Other actions include ensuring that relevant authorities, landowners and CALM personnel are aware of the subspecies' presence and the need to protect it, and that all are familiar with the threats identified in the Interim Recovery Plan.

IRPs will be deemed a success if the number of individuals within the population and/or the number of populations have increased.



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The fruits of narrow curved-leaf grevillea. Photo – Anne Cochrane



The habitat of narrow curved-leaf grevillea. Photo – Val English

