

## THREATENED SPECIES OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### *Hernandia nymphaeifolia*



#### Conservation status

Australia: Not listed.

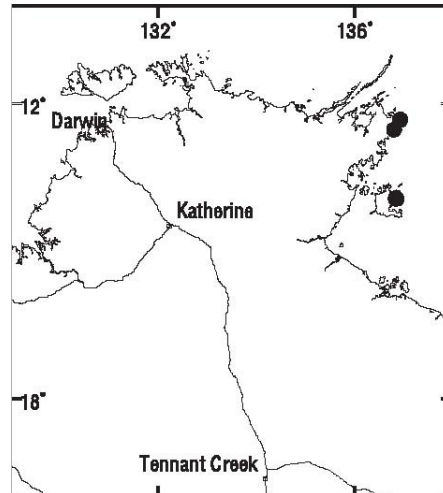
Northern Territory: Vulnerable.

#### Description

*Hernandia nymphaeifolia* is a shrub or tree 5-22 m high. The leaves are peltately attached, narrowly or broadly ovate or subcircular. The 5-9 veins are palmate. The flowers are greenish or white, fragrant, with male and female separate. The fruit is fleshy, waxy white or reddish.

Flowering: Mar.

Fruiting: Jun – Jul.



Known locations of *Hernandia nymphaeifolia*.



*Hernandia nymphaeifolia*.

#### Distribution

This species occurs throughout the tropics (Duyfjes 1996). In the Northern Territory, it is known only from Groote Eylandt and Port Bradshaw in northeast Arnhem Land.

*Conservation reserves where reported*:  
None.

#### Ecology

This species occurs exclusively in coastal areas: along the sea-shore in littoral forest and in coastal swamps.

#### Conservation assessment

This species was difficult to code. The number of plants present in forests where it was collected indicates the species is reproducing in the region and therefore does not qualify as a vagrant or visitor. The species satisfies the criteria for Endangered based on number of individuals estimated to be <250. However, as a coastal species with potential for immigration it is listed as **Vulnerable** (under criteria D1+2).

#### Threatening processes

The species is susceptible to stochastic events such as cyclones.



Northern Territory Government

Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts

## *Threatened Species Information Sheet*

### **Conservation objectives and management**

Further survey work in coastal rainforests may yield additional populations. Collection of propagation material and translocation to botanic gardens may be the only option for protection of the species against cyclonic events.

### **Compiled by**

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### **References**

Duyfjes, B.E.E. (1996). Hernandiaceae.  
*Flora Malesiana* (Ser.1) **12**, 737 - 761.



**Northern Territory Government**

Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts