

Non-Forest Vegetation Scrub, Heathland and Coastal Complexes



Benchmark for Vegetation Condition Assessment

Melaleuca squarrosa scrub: SMR

Community Description:

Melaleuca squarrosa scrub is a closed canopy scrub 2-3 (5) m high on poorly drained flats underlain by peat developed on various substrates. *Melaleuca squarrosa* dominates, usually with some of *M. squamea, Banksia marginata, Hakea epiglottis* and *Acacia mucronata*. There may be openings of buttongrass or sedges such as *Baloskion tetraphyllum, Leptocarpus tenax, Lepyrodia tasmanica* and *Gahnia grandis. Melaleuca squarrosa* scrub is widespread through western Tasmania, especially in lowland areas of poor drainage surrounded by heathland and sedgeland. The community also occurs in the north-east and far north-west of Tasmania.

Dominant Life Form Cover: 75%

LF Code T

Dominant Species: *Melaleuca squarrosa* **Common Name:** scented paperbark

Understorey:

LF code	Life Forms	#Spp	%Cover
Т	Large shrub or tree	4	75%
S	Shrub	2	5%
LSR	Large sedge/rush/sagg/lily	3	15%
MSR	Medium to small sedge/rush/sagg/lily	2	5%
GF	Ground fern	1	5%
SCE	Scrambler/Climber/Epiphyte	1	2%

Organic Litter: 10% cover

VERSION 1.0

Melaleuca squarrosa scrub: SMR

Common Name

Typical Species*

LF Code

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Т	Banksia marginata	silver banksia
Т	Leptospermum lanigerum	woolly teatree
Т	Leptospermum scoparium	common teatree
Т	Melaleuca squamea	swamp honeymyrtle
S	Acacia mucronata	caterpillar wattle
S	Bauera rubioides	wiry bauera
S	Hakea epiglottis	beaked needlebush
S	Monotoca submutica	broomheath
S	Philotheca virgata (West coast only)	twiggy waxflower
S	Sprengelia incarnata	pink swampheath
LSR	Baloskion australe	southern cordrush
LSR	Baloskion tetraphyllum	tassel cordrush
LSR	Gahnia grandis	cutting grass
LSR	Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus	buttongrass
LSR	Lepidosperma spp.	swordsedge
LSR	Leptocarpus tenax	slender twinerush
LSR	Sporadanthus tasmanicus	branching scalerush
MSR	Empodisma minus	spreading roperush
MSR	Schoenus lepidosperma	slender bogsedge
MSR	Tetraria capillaris	hair sedge
MSR	<i>Xyris</i> spp.	yelloweye
GF	Gleichenia dicarpa	pouched coralfern
GF	Selaginella spp.	spikemoss
SCE	Calorophus elongatus	Long roperush

*NB These species are typical of this plant community type but may not necessarily be present. This list is provided as a guide only.

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