



# SECURING THE FUTURE PROJECT

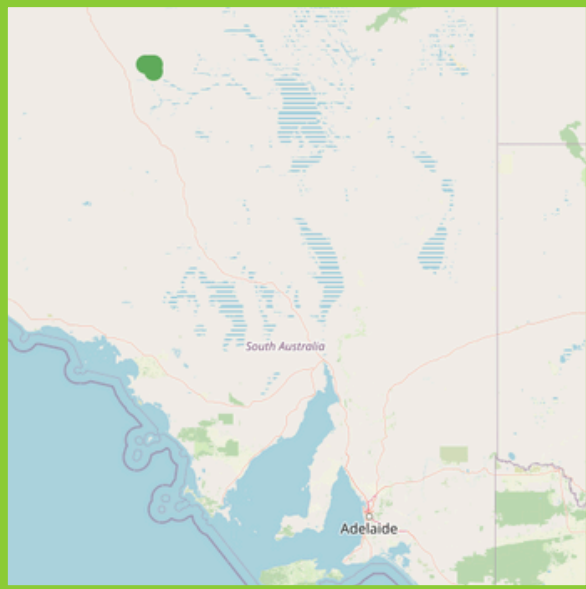
Preventing extinction of 10 threatened plants from SA, Vic & WA through seed collecting, germination trials, research, propagation & translocations

An initiative of the



Australian  
Seed Bank  
Partnership

## DISTRIBUTION



# SPECIES PROFILE

## OLEARIA ARCKARINGENSIS

A small, compact shrub growing up to 30cm high, with greyish green oval-shaped leaves and hairy stems joining to a thick woody base. It's flowers are typical daisy flowers, with up to 60 petal-like ray florets, which are either lavender or whitish in colour.

The species is found only in a small area within the Arckaringa Basin in northern South Australia. It inhabits gullies in gravelly, eroded flat-topped hilly areas (mesas). A hardy shrub, it can regrow even when it has died back to a stump in harsh years.

The fruit of this daisy are relatively large and fluffy, containing brown oblong oval-shaped seeds. Mature fruiting heads are easy to collect, and pure seed viability is generally high, ranging from 91 to 100%.

## KEY FACTS

**Common name:** Arckaringa Daisy

**Conservation status:** Endangered (EPBC),  
Endangered (SA)

**Historical notes:** Discovered in 2000

**Flowering season:** September - November

**Lifespan:** Perennial - short lived

This profile was produced in collaboration with **Plant Conservation Australia** (formerly the ANPC)



**Arckaringa Daisy in flower**  
(Image: South Australian  
Seed Conservation Centre)



## THREATENING PROCESSES

The Arckaringa Daisy faces significant threats from overgrazing and trampling by livestock and feral animals such as rabbits, horses, donkeys, and camels, particularly during dry years. Its limited distribution makes it highly vulnerable to habitat degradation caused by intensified land use, including mining, energy production, and changing pastoral practices. Conservation efforts, such as seed banking, fencing, and ensuring watering points are kept away from habitat, can reduce these pressures and protect this rare species.

## PROJECT OUTCOMES

Through the **Securing the Future Project**, the South Australian Seed Conservation Centre (Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium of South Australia) has made remarkable progress in safeguarding the Arckaringa Daisy.



Botanic Gardens  
and State Herbarium

Hampered by unusually low rainfall, a 2024 flora survey in known habitat at Evelyn Downs and Arckaringa found over 120 drought-stressed plants with no visible seed. However, further dedicated survey efforts in June 2025 after subsequent rain discovered 2,866 plants across known and newly identified sub-populations. This huge increase in plant numbers highlighted the boom-and-bust lifecycle of this arid-zone daisy, and expanded knowledge of its distribution.

Importantly, three accessions totaling approximately 3,650 seeds were also collected during this project which are now safely banked at the South Australian Seed Conservation Centre. Securing genetically representative ex-situ seed collections provides the species with an insurance population, while allowing opportunities for future research and restoration.

## REFERENCES

- Images (L-R): Arckaringa Daisy flower (SA Seed Conservation Centre), daisy plant Sept 2024 (Dan Duval), daisy seeds (Dan Duval), Evelyn Downs habitat June 2025 (Dan Duval).
- <https://spapps.environment.sa.gov.au/SeedsOfSA/speciesinformation.html?rid=3091>
- <https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/projects-and-partners/completed-projects/safeguarding-the-arckaringa-daisy>
- <https://bie.ala.org.au/species/https://id.biodiversity.org.au/node/apni/2901236>
- <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/threatened/action-plan/priority-plants/arckaringa-daisy>



Australian Government

We acknowledge the Priority Species Grant provided by the Australian Government's [Saving Native Species Program](#) to improve outcomes for priority plants in the Threatened Species Action Plan.

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## SUPPORT OUR FUTURE PROJECTS!

Scan to make a tax-deductible donation that will support native plant conservation and research.

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership is a registered business name of the [Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Inc.](#) We hold deductible-gift recipient status, and are registered with the Australian Charities & Not-for-profits Commission. **Donations of \$2 and above are tax-deductible. (ABN: 58153442365)**

