

Progress Report SP 2013-052

**Interactive key and taxonomic studies of
Myrtaceae tribe Chamelaucieae**

Plant Science and Herbarium

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Project status as of July 4, 2016, 4:21 p.m.

Approved and active

Document endorsements and approvals as of July 4, 2016, 4:21 p.m.

Project Team

granted

Program Leader

granted

Directorate

granted

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Context

Taxonomic revision is required in various plant groups to facilitate appropriate determination of their conservation status. The main group of plants under study, Myrtaceae tribe Chamelaucieae, comprises over 800 species of shrubs, including over 200 unnamed species and subspecies. The lack of an adequate taxonomy continues to impede their conservation, study (in fields other than taxonomy) and commercial utilisation. The other main groups under study are two genera of the Proteaceae (*Isopogon* and *Petrophile*) and one genus (*Pimelea*) in the Thymelaeaceae.

Aims

- Publish a series of taxonomic papers describing many new species, most of which have conservation priority, and in some cases also describe new genera.
- Maintain a draft *Flora of Australia* treatment of tribe Chamelaucieae of the Myrtaceae.
- Produce and continually update an interactive key to members of this tribe.

Progress

- A paper on *Rinzia* has been submitted to Nuytsia.
- Papers on *Babingtonia*, *Hysterobaeckea* and *Malleostemon* (Myrtaceae), *Isopogon* (Proteaceae) and five new species of Cyperaceae have been published in Nuytsia.
- Papers on a new subtribal classification of Chamelaucieae and on *Scholtzia* are in preparation.
- Updates have been made to the interactive key to Myrtaceae tribe Chamelaucieae.

Management implications

An improved understanding of the numbers and status of taxa will facilitate their management and conservation. For the large tribe Chamelaucieae, in which generic boundaries are still far from clear, an interactive key provides the best practical means of identification of all its members.

Future directions

- Continue progress towards an official release of the interactive key through publication of an introductory paper in Nuytsia.
- Submit papers on *Scholtzia* and the new subtribal classification (Myrtaceae).
- Develop keys of Chamelaucieae and Lamiaceae for Keybase project.