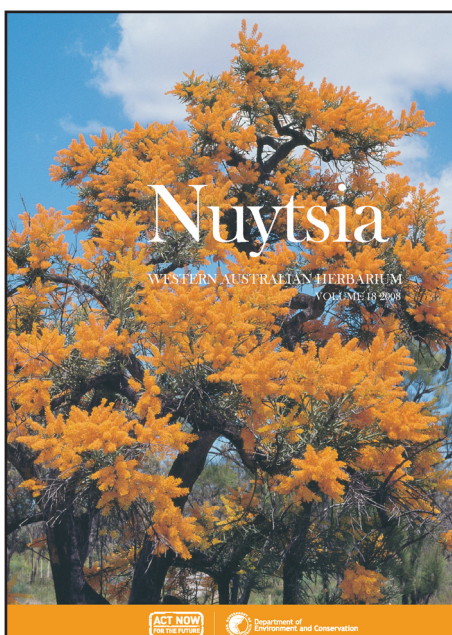


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A new subspecies of *Gnaphalium indutum* (Asteraceae: Gnaphalieae)

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Abstract

Wilson, P.G. A new subspecies of *Gnaphalium indutum* (Asteraceae: Gnaphalieae). *Nuytsia* 18: 291–293 (2008). *Gnaphalium indutum* Hook.f. is considered to consist of two infraspecific taxa, subsp. *indutum* and subsp. *acuminatum* Paul G.Wilson *subsp. nov.* The latter is predominantly an inland taxon of non-saline habitats.

Taxonomy

Gnaphalium indutum Hook.f., *London J. Bot.* 6:121(1847).

Type: Circular Head, Tasmania, 15 November 1836, R.C. Gunn 839 (*holo:* K *n.v.*, photo PERTH).

Rounded, cottony, multistemmed annual to 10 cm high. *Stems* weak, wiry. *Leaves* linear to linear-spathulate, obtuse, 5–10(–20) mm long. *Capitula* in upper axils, sessile to slender-pedunculate forming globose corymbs, often subtended by leafy bracts that sometimes well exceed the capitula. *Involucres* cup-shaped, 2–3 mm high; outer bracts ovate, somewhat woolly, intermediate and inner bracts narrowly oblong to narrowly elliptic, acute or acuminate, sometimes minutely serrulate towards apex, sparsely woolly over the narrowly oblong stereome, straw-coloured or purple towards apex. Bisexual *florets* 4–6; corollas purple tipped. *Achenes* c. 0.7 mm long with minute, clavate, myxogenic duplex hairs.

Distribution. Found in southern Australia from the Abrolhos Islands, Western Australia, to far south-eastern New South Wales and Tasmania.

Two subspecies are recognised.

1. Inner involucre bracts obtuse to acute or evenly acuminate, the apices flat, entire, smooth subsp. **indutum**
- 1: Inner involucre bracts abruptly acuminate, the apices inwardly concave, denticulate, scabridulous subsp. **acuminatum**

Gnaphalium indutum Hook.f. subsp. **indutum**

G. sericeum Turcz., *Bull. Soc. Imp. Naturalistes Moscou* 24/2: 83(1851). *Type*: south-west Western Australia, *J. Drummond* 5th coll. n. 392 (*iso*: MEL 293593, MEL 283445, PERTH 00756547).

Inner *involucral bracts* obtuse to acute or evenly acuminate; apex smooth and flat, entire, pale yellowish or pale red, often reddish below apex as stripes on either side of stereome. *Florets* 20–30. *Pappus bristles* not, or only slightly, broadened at base where weakly united and soon free, caducous.

Distribution. Found in Tasmania and mainly coastal or near coastal southern Australia from the Abrolhos Islands, Western Australia, to far south-eastern New South Wales, also inland Victoria and inland south and south-eastern South Australia.

Habitat. Found around coastal and near coastal salt lakes, but also collected in areas that have not been noted as being saline.

Selected specimens examined. WESTERN AUSTRALIA: Walpole-Nornalup National Park, 25 Sep. 1992, *J.R. Wheeler* 3324 (PERTH). SOUTH AUSTRALIA: False Cape, Kangaroo Is., *B.M. Overton* 892 (AD). NEW SOUTH WALES: Mowarry Point, 3 Oct. 1975, *A. Slee* (CANB). VICTORIA: Port Fairy, Oct. 1889, *H.B. Williamson* (CANB). TASMANIA: Cape Portland, *A. Moscal* 3178 (HO).

Notes. As delimited here this subspecies is somewhat variable morphologically. The pappus bristles are sometimes not at all broadened at base and are then virtually free, while sometimes they are slightly broadened and weakly connate. This morphological variability, along with the diverse habitats, suggests that there may be more than one taxon included under this name.

Gnaphalium indutum subsp. **acuminatum** Paul G. Wilson, *subsp. nov.*

Ab subsp. *induto* bracteis involucri abrupte acuminatis, ad apicem minute scabridulis, denticulatis, rubescentibus vel lutescentibus, setis pappi ad basim latioribus differt.

Typus: Dookie College of Agriculture, Victoria, 2 November 1992, *J.E. Strudwick* 909 (*holo*: MEL; *iso*: CANB).

Inner *involucral bracts* abruptly acuminate; apical portion minutely scabridulous, denticulate, inwardly concave, reddish or becoming yellowish at tip, the colouration not extending downwards to the stereome. *Florets* c. 50. *Pappus bristles* noticeably broadened and shortly united at base, persistent or semi-persistent.

Distribution. Found in inland areas of Victoria (rarely near-coastal) and in the extreme south-central area of New South Wales.

Habitat. Occurs in woodland and scrub in non-saline soils.

Selected specimens examined. NEW SOUTH WALES: The Rocks, between Berrigan and Tocumwal, Oct. 1979, *W.E. Mulham* (NSW). VICTORIA: Puckapunyal, 1.7 km NNE of Mt Disappointment, *R.J. Adair* 2090 (MEL); 6.5 km SE of Seaton, *D.E. Albrecht* 1923 (MEL); Mt Arapiles, *A.C. Beauglehole* 16641 (MEL); Brisbane Range National Park, *A.C. Beauglehole* 56659 (MEL); Glenmaggie Regional Park, *A.C. Beauglehole* 78623 (MEL); Warby Ranges State Park, *A.C. Beauglehole* 80793 (MEL); Cosstick Reserve, 2 miles (c. 3 km) west of Maryborough, *T.B. Muir* 1466 (MEL); Euroa, *R. Thomas* 343 (MEL); St Leonards, Bellarine Peninsula, 9 Nov. 1947, *J.H. Willis* (MEL); Batesford, 11 Oct. 1981, *J.H. Willis* (MEL).

Notes. The only coastal or near-coastal collection of this subspecies was that made by J.H. Willis at St Leonards (see above), where it was found growing on 'wet flats under Red Gum'. Willis noted that it was a form 'with acuminate and apically laciniate bracts and more papillose achenes than in the usual, typical form'.

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