

***Ptilotus exiliflorus*, a new name for  
*Ptilotus parviflorus* (Benth.) R.W.Davis (Amaranthaceae)**

In a recent short communication (Davis 2011), *Ptilotus humilis* (Nees) F.Muell. var. *parviflorus* Benth. was raised to species rank as *P. parviflorus* (Benth.) R.W.Davis. Unfortunately, this species name is preoccupied by *P. parviflorus* (Lindl.) F.Muell. (= *P. obovatus* (Gaudich.) F.Muell.) rendering *P. parviflorus* (Benth.) R.W.Davis illegitimate under the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* (McNeill *et al.* 2006). A new name, *P. exiliflorus* R.W.Davis, is therefore provided for this taxon. The new epithet is derived from the Latin *exilis* (-slender) and *floris* (-flower) in reference to its narrower inflorescence, which separates it from the morphologically similar species *P. humilis* (Nees) F.Muell.

### Taxonomy

***Ptilotus exiliflorus*** R.W.Davis., *nom. nov.*

*Ptilotus humilis* (Nees) F.Muell. var. *parviflorus* Benth., *Fl. Austral.* 5: 245 (1870). *Ptilotus parviflorus* (Benth.) R.W.Davis, *Nuytsia* 21: 150–151 (2011), *nom. illeg. non Mueller* (1882). *Type*: S.W. Australia, 1860, *Mr Burgess s.n.* (*holo*: K 000356830, image seen).

*Ptilotus humilis* (Nees) F.Muell. subsp. *parviflorus* (Benth.) Benl ms, *nom. inval.*

### Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Brendan Lepschi for his advice and for bringing this anomaly to my attention and to Paul Wilson for his assistance with the taxonomy.

### References

- Davis R.W. (2011). Re-evaluation of some infraspecific taxa in *Ptilotus* (Amaranthaceae). *Nuytsia* 21: 150–151.
- McNeill, J., Barrie, R.R., Burdet, H.M., Demoulin, V., Hawksworth, D.L., Marhold, K., Nicolson, D.H., Prado, J., Silva, P.C., Skog, J.E., Wiersema, J.H. & Turland, N.J. (eds) (2006). *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (Vienna Code) adopted by the Seventeenth International Botanical Congress Vienna, Austria, July 2005*. Regnum vegetabile vol. 146. (A.R.G. Gantner: Ruggell, Liechtenstein.)
- Mueller F. (1882). *Systematic census of Australian plants* (Government Printer: Melbourne, Vic.)

### Robert W. Davis

Western Australian Herbarium, Department of Environment and Conservation,  
Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre, Western Australia 6983