

## Plant of the Month — October 2016

### *Xerochrysum macranthum* (Benth.) Paul G.Wilson



*Xerochrysum macranthum* is an erect, branching annual or short-lived perennial sub-shrub with a woody base, growing to 1.5 m high. The distinctive white or yellow (sometimes bronze) flowers with their shiny, petal-like bracts provide a spectacular display from Spring to Autumn. In Western Australia *X. macranthum* can be found in the south-west from Geraldton south to Albany growing on a variety of soils and in markedly different habitats including jarrah forests, heath land and seasonally damp areas.

In the dynamic world of taxonomy, the genus *Xerochrysum* is currently the focus of research at the Western Australian Herbarium by Research Associate Paul Wilson, who is reviewing the circumscription of this group. In an upcoming paper in our journal *Nuytsia*, WA plants that were previously recognized as the widespread *X. bracteatum* will now be placed under other species, primarily *X. macranthum*.

Photo: R. Davis

[Find out more about \*Xerochrysum macranthum\* \(Benth.\) Paul G.Wilson](#)

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