

## NOTES ON *PULTENAEA GUNNII* Benth. (FABACEAE) IN AUSTRALIA AND DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SUBSPECIES FROM VICTORIA

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### ABSTRACT

Corrick, M.G. Notes on *Pultenaea gunnii* Benth. (Fabaceae) in Australia and description of a new subspecies from Victoria. *Muelleria* 8(1): 55–56 (1993). — *Pultenaea gunnii* in Australia is discussed and several names are reduced to synonymy. A new subspecies, *P. gunnii* subsp. *tuberculata*, is described from Victoria. It is noted that *P. gunnii* subsp. *gunnii* collected from southern New South Wales in 1837 has not subsequently been recorded in that state.

### INTRODUCTION

*Pultenaea gunnii* is a polymorphic species within which several varieties have been described; apart from one distinctive population from the Brisbane Range in Victoria, these have proved impossible to circumscribe when viewed against the range of variation exhibited in currently available collections of which over 250 have been examined. Some existing names are therefore reduced to synonymy under *P. gunnii* and a new subspecies from the Brisbane Range is described.

*P. gunnii* is widespread in Tasmania and in central and eastern Victoria. It was also collected in New South Wales by Mueller from 'barren ranges near Mount Imlay', in September 1860, but has apparently not been collected subsequently from that locality.

### TAXONOMY

*Pultenaea gunnii* Benth. in Comm. Legum. Gen. 18 (June 1837). TYPE: 'Van Diemen's land Gunn'. (Possible SYNTYPES: (2 sheets) MEL 1600255 and 504796).

*P. gunnii* Benth. var. *prostrata* Hook.f. Fl. Tasmaniae 1:88 (May 1856). TYPE: not clearly designated.

*P. gunnii* Benth. var. *erecta* Hook.f. Fl. Tasmaniae 1:88 (May 1856) *nom. illeg.* as this appears to be the type variety.

*P. gunnii* Benth. var. *baeckeoides* Rodway. The Tasmanian Flora p. 33 (1903). TYPE: 'on dry hills'. (Possible SYNTYPE: MEL 35439).

*P. gunnii* Benth. var. *flava* Ewart in Vict. Nat. 24:190 (Apr. 1908). HOLOTYPE: Wandin, 11 Oct. 1907, P.R.H. St John (MEL 627540).

*P. gunnii* Benth. var. *planifolia* F. Muell. ex Williamson, in Proc. Roy. Soc. Vict. 32 (ns.) Pt. 2: 215 (1920). LECTOTYPE (here selected): *Mueller s.n.*, no date or locality (MEL 1600288; see notes below).

*P. baeckeoides* A. Cunn. ex Benth. in Comm. Leg. Gen. 19 (June 1837). TYPE: Van Diemens Land, A. Cunn.

### COMMENTS

Williamson's publication of *P. gunnii* var. *planifolia* F. Muell. cites the type as a 'broad-leaved form from Badger Head, Tas.' There are two sheets in MEL labelled var. *planifolia* in Mueller's hand-writing; both are undated and without locality details. On one of these sheets there is also a fragment (presumably broken from the main specimen) which was recovered from Williamson's Herbarium. This fragment is labelled 'var. *planifolia*' in Williamson's hand-writing. There is

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one other old collection in MEL from Badger Head (*Stuart 959*) determined by Williamson as *P. gunnii* Benth. but the specimen does not fit in with what I believe was Mueller's and Williamson's concept of the var. *planifolia*. It seems likely that the locality 'Badger Head' in Williamson's protologue may have been a slip of the pen. I have therefore chosen as the lectotype the sheet carrying annotations by both Mueller and Williamson.

#### NEW SUBSPECIES

***Pultenaea gunnii* Benth. subsp. *tuberculata* M.G. Corrick subsp. nov.**

ab ullo forma speciei typicae foliis parvis ellipticis (1.5–3 mm longis, 1–1.5 mm latis), margine plano tubercuto crasso levitur, pagina supera tuberculata et costa in pagina inferna prominenti differt.

TYPUS: Victoria — Brisbane Range, Switch Track, 1.5 km south of junction with McLeans Highway, 1 Nov. 1991, *M.G. Corrick 10790* (HOLOTYPUS: MEL; ISOTYPI: PERTH, CBG, HO, NSW, K.)

REPRESENTATIVE SPECIMENS (total number examined 13)

Victoria — Brisbane Range, beside Aeroplane Track near its junction with Mistletoe Track, 12 Jan. 1992, *M.G. Corrick 10798* (MEL); Anakie, 26 Oct. 1923, *A.C.F. Gates 638* (MEL); 12 km SW of Bacchus Marsh, near Reids Road, 11 Nov. 1976, *T.B. Muir 5477* (MEL).

#### DISTRIBUTION

This taxon is confined to the rocky slopes and ridges of the Brisbane Range in Victoria in *Eucalyptus sideroxylon*, *E. obliqua*, *E. macrorhyncha* mixed forest.

#### KEY TO THE SUBSPECIES OF PULTENAEA GUNNII

1. Leaves usually widest below the middle, margin recurved; upper surface of leaf glabrous, smooth or slightly wrinkled, lower surface with pale, loosely appressed hairs (rarely glabrous); mid-rib obscure..... subsp. **gunnii**
1. Leaves widest at the middle, leaf margin thickened and tuberculate, but not recurved, upper surface of leaf tuberculate, lower surface glabrous; midrib prominent .....subsp. **tuberculata**

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am most grateful to Jim Ross for advice and for continued access to the collections and facilities at MEL, to Terry Macfarlane for advice, to Neville Walsh for the Latin diagnosis and to the Curator of HO for the loan of specimens.