Four new Australian species of *Craspedia* sens. strict. (Asteraceae: Gnaphalieae)

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**Abstract**


**Introduction**

Prior to the publication of an account of *Craspedia* Forst. f. (Asteraceae: Gnaphalieae) in volume 3 of the *Flora of New South Wales* it is necessary to describe the following four species.

This paper deals with species of *Craspedia* sens. strict., that is those plants with pedunculate capitula within the compound head, but excludes those of alpine and subalpine regions. Further papers in this volume deal with alpine and subalpine *Craspedia* species, and those species with sessile capitula that have been removed to the reinstated genus *Pycnosorus*. All specimens cited have been seen unless otherwise indicated.

*C. paludicola* Everett & Doust, sp. nov.

Species foliis atroviridibus longe oblongis, basibus foliorum late vaginantibus, a speciebus nobis notis distincta.

**Type: Victoria:** Region I: Top End Reference Area Barmah State Park, Murray Valley Study Area Sector: F, sub-block: 41B, A.C. Beauglehole 81321, 28 Sep 1985 (holo MEL 681491; iso NSW, CANB, HO n.v.).

Robust herb with large dark olive-green flaccid leaves usually tinged deep red at the base, with one to three flowering scapes to 75 cm high; roots thick, tomentose. Leaves basal and cauline, narrow-obovate, obtuse, attenuate and broadly stem-clasping at the base, 15–30 cm long, 8–20 mm wide, with one to several prominent longitudinal veins, glabrous or with few scattered long, fine, tangled hairs or multi-septate hairs, or these denser on the margins or mid-vein; old leaf bases retained. Inflorescence a single globular, terminal compound head. Scape purplish with scattered long fine hairs. Compound head 1.7–3.0 cm in diameter with up to 300 partial heads. Partial heads with 7–12 florets; main bract of the partial involucre broadly triangular to ovate, with a small, diffuse, ovate herbaceous stereome with silky hairs at the base and glandular hairs overall, the margins membranous. Corolla bright yellow; achenes 1–1.8 mm long, 0.5–1.0 mm diam., with dense appressed silky hairs; pappus of 13–17 plumose bristles 3–4 mm long.

**Derivation:** From the Latin *paludis*, a marsh, and *-cola*, a dweller; referring to the swampy habitat.
FLOWERING PERIOD: Spring to summer.

HABITAT: Restricted to swampy areas and drainlines, and often grows with its leaves partly submerged.

DISTRIBUTION: Tasmanian midlands, Victoria and southern New South Wales, particularly associated with the Murray River system.

Can be distinguished by its long, oblong, very dark green leaves, with very broad leaf bases.


C. variabilis Everett and Doust, sp. nov.

Species foliis anguste spathulatis pilis plurisegmentatis grossis, a speciebus nobis notis distinta.

TYPE: SOUTH AUSTRALIA: South Eastern Region: c. 15 km south-east of Mt Burr Township, I.B. Wilson 511, 7 Sep 1966 (holo AD; iso CANB).

Erect herb with one to several flowering scapes to 50 cm high, branched simply at the base, with thick, spreading woolly roots and broad, reddish, overlapping leaf-bases retained at the base. Leaves in a basal rosette and cauline, narrow-spathulate, 5–13 cm long, 5–13 mm wide, broad-acute, gland-tipped, pale to olive-green, with glandular hairs and multi-septate hairs and with very sparse long fine simple hairs. Inflorescence a globose terminal compound head. Scape straw-coloured to reddish, with multi-septate hairs and a few long fine hairs. Compound head 10–25 mm diam., with c. 40–100 partial heads. Partial heads prominently pedunculate, with 7–12 florets; main bract of the partial involucre ovate-cordate to broadly triangular, decurrent on the peduncle, with an ovate, glandular, herbaceous stereome, finely and sparsely woolly at the base, and with a colourless to brown, membranous lamina. Corolla golden-yellow; lobes broad-acute, conspicuously papillate on the inner surface; achenes 1.5–2.5 mm long, with fine, appressed, short, silky hairs; pappus of 13–21 colourless, plumose bristles 3–5 mm long.

DERIVATION: Refers to the number of different forms across its wide distribution.

FLOWERING PERIOD: Early spring to early summer.

HABITAT: A wide variety of habitats but never alpine.

DISTRIBUTION: In temperate regions of all mainland States except the Northern Territory.

This is a complex species with several forms, some of which may be separable on further work. It can be distinguished from other species in its geographical range by the narrow-spathulate leaves, with long, coarse, multi-septate hairs. This species is referred to as sp. C (in part), sp. M and sp. N in Jacobs & Pickard (1981).

C. canens Everett & Doust, sp. nov.
C. variabili similis sed foliis incanis pilis tenuis differt.


Herb with 1, or occasionally up to 5, flowering scapes 15-65 cm high; roots thick, spreading, tomentose. Leaves mainly basal, narrow-ovate, attenuate to long-attenuate, acute to broad-acuminate, 6-25 cm long, 5-15 mm diam.; upper surface with long fine white hairs, evenly covering the surface or confined to the main veins and leaf margins, minute glandular hairs sometimes present; lower surface covered with long fine white hairs, occasionally with minute glandular hairs. Inflorescence a single globose to hemispherical terminal compound head. Scape green to purplish, minutely glandular and often woolly with long fine hairs. Compound head 1.3-2.5 cm diam., with c. 100 partial heads. Partial heads with 5-9 florets; main bract of the partial involucre ovate with a narrow-ovate to deltoid herbaceous stereome with a membranous lamina tinged brown. Corolla yellow; achenes 1-1.5 mm long, with fine appressed short silky hairs; pappus of 14-17 colourless plumose bristles 2.5-4 mm long.

Derivation: From the Latin canus, referring to the greyish whiteness of the leaves, caused by hairs overlying the green of the lamina.

Flowering period: Early spring to summer.

Habitat: In wet or dry situations in open woodland or grassland.

Distribution: On Australia's east coast and tablelands, from southern Queensland southwards.

This is a complex species with several forms, some of which may be separable on further work. It can be distinguished from other species in its geographical range by the hoary leaf surfaces. This species is in part referred to as sp. C in Jacobs & Pickard (1981).


C. haplorrhiza Everett & Doust, sp. nov.
C. variabili similis sed radice palari differt.

Type: New South Wales: South Far Western Plains: southern crossroad, north of Ranger's Station, Kinchega National Park, A. Denham 039, 12 Sep 1989 (holo NSW; iso AD).

Erect herb with one to many flowering scapes 7-15 cm high, branched simply at the base from a small taproot. Leaves in a basal rosette and cauline, spatulate to narrow-ovate, 1-8 cm long, 2-12 mm wide, obtuse to broad-acumulate, gland-tipped, pale-green, with glandular hairs and multi-septate hairs and with sparse long fine tangled
hairs on the margins. Inflorescence a globose terminal compound head. Scape straw-coloured to reddish, glandular with translucent globules and with a few multi-sep­tate hairs. Compound head 7–28 mm diam., with c. 30–60 partial heads. Partial heads prominently pedunculate, with 6–11 florets; main bract of the partial involucre ovate-cordate to almost circular, decurrent on the peduncle, with a small ovate to deltoid glandular, herbaceous stereome, finely and sparsely woolly at the base, and with a colourless membranous lamina. Corolla golden-yellow; lobes broad-acute, conspicuously papillate on the inner surface; achenes 1.5–2 mm long, with fine, dense, appressed, short, silky hairs; pappus of 10–16 colourless, plumose bristles 2–3 mm long.

**Derivation:** From the Greek *haplo*, single, and *-rhiza*, root; referring to the single taproot.

**Flowering period:** Early spring to early summer.

**Habitat:** On heavy soils, on floodplains and in damp situations.

**Distribution:** In the western and far western divisions of New South Wales, northwestern Victoria, south-western Queensland, southern Western Australia, and in South Australia.

Can be distinguished from all other *Craspedia* species by its single taproot.

This species was referred to as sp. O in Jacobs & Pickard (1981).


**Acknowledgements**

We wish to thank Karen Wilson for the Latin diagnoses, and Andrew Denham, Lani Retter, Leonie Stanberg and Ross Rowe for technical assistance. We are grateful to the Heads of AD, PERTH, BRI, DNA, MEL, CANB, CBG, and HO for the loan of specimens that have made this study possible. The work has been in part supported by grants from the Australian Biological Resources Study, which we gratefully acknowledge.

**Reference**


Manuscript received 5 November 1991
Manuscript accepted 13 March 1992