

# Ptilotus Study Group

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No 4, July 2000.

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Dear Members,

Included in this newsletter is a list of Ptilotus species and varieties that we have been able to find published in various texts. There are reported to be approximately 100 species. The aim is to list all the species, preferably with a description and photos of each. Any members who can provide information or photos are welcome to contribute. Thank you to Peter Abell, Anthony O'Halloran and Annabelle Greenup for their contributions.

Interesting news was received from new member Jocelyn Bishop (Perthville – near Bathurst, N.S.W.) Jocelyn states that she has located a number of Ptilotus plants growing nearby on old mine sites. She had them identified by the Herbarium as Ptilotus polystachus var. polystachyus. It has white flowers with a greenish tinge.

It is surprising to find Ptilotus so far east, although Peter Abell states that there was a population in the Hunter Valley west of Bulga. Unfortunately I didn't have time to search for it on my way through from Sydney.

Two Ptilotus varieties are set for commercial release, both excellent varieties for cut flowers. They were developed by Peter Abell & other staff at the Sydney University Plant Breeding & Research Institute at Cobbitty.

One is a lovely form of Ptilotus exaltatus named "Abell Star".

The other is a hybrid bred from Ptilotus obovatus, named "Pink Suantra", which has masses of tiny pale pink heads.

For those with access to the internet, the nursery which is producing these varieties has a webpage. The address is:

[www4.tpgi.com.au/users/hatmail/](http://www4.tpgi.com.au/users/hatmail/)

The growers are Baillie Flora, Queensland. Phone (07) 49 821 535

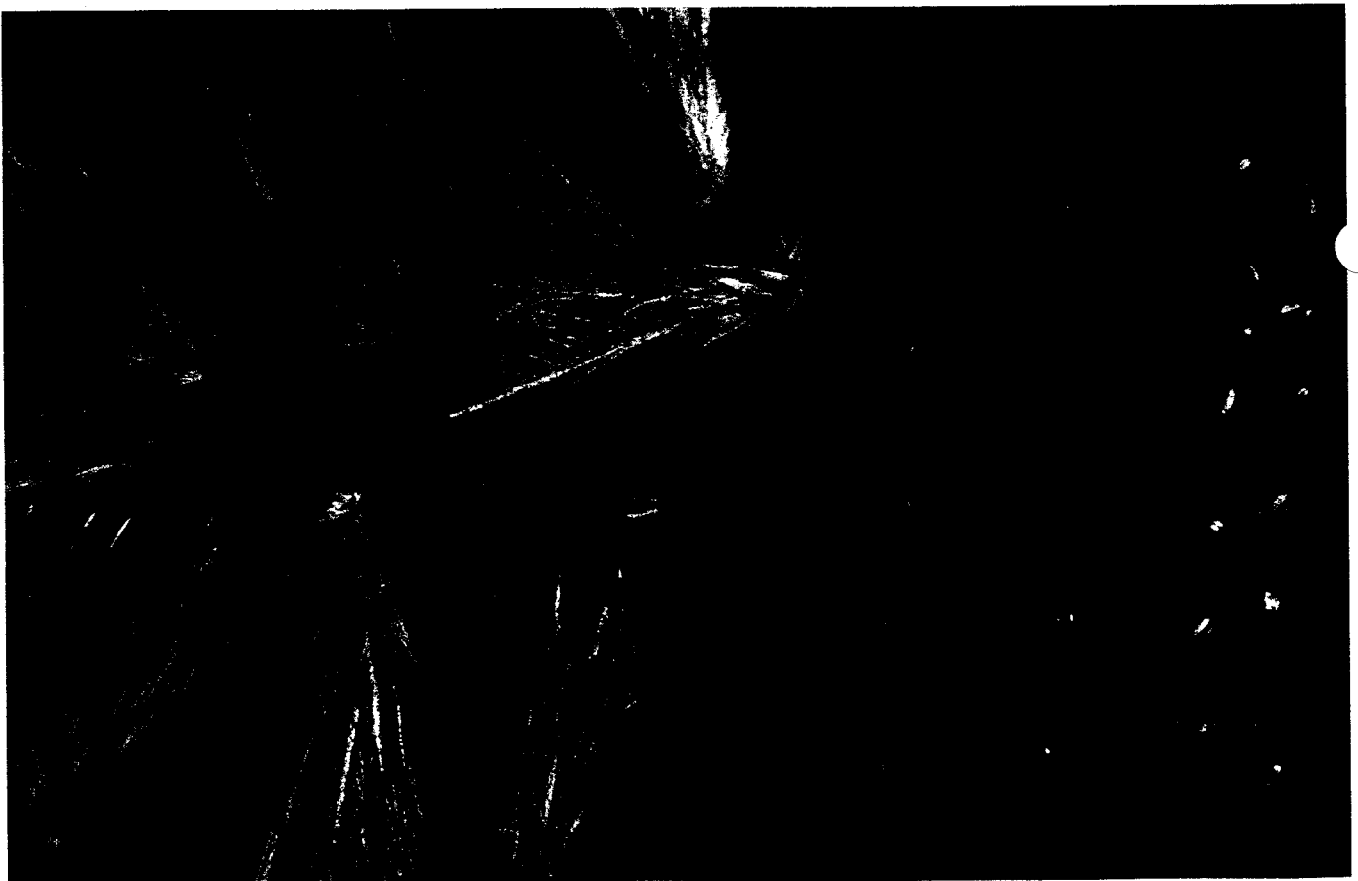
The plants are being reproduced by tissue culture, so they are true to type.

For those members who would like to attempt to propagate and grow some *Ptilotus* varieties, the Study Group has seed and a small amount of cutting material available. If you would like to trial this challenging plant please contact me at the address on the newsletter, or phone (02) 65 674 678. ( or [bankrae@midcoast.com.au](mailto:bankrae@midcoast.com.au).)

Seed can be germinated on damp paper if you wish. Viable seed can be easily determined if the fluffy outside husk is removed first. Good seed is firm, plump & shiny and will sink in a container of water. Poor seed will float & be thin & light.

Below: Typical seed of large flowered species (e.g. *Ptilotus exaltatus*)

(Photo courtesy of Peter Abell)



Ptilotus Species List

1. aphyllus
2. alexandri
3. aervoides
4. arthrolasius
5. astrolasius (var. astrolasius)
6. auriculifolius
7. atriplicifolius (var. atriplicifolius/ var. elderi)
8. aristatus (var. aristatus/ var. eichleranus/ var. exilis/ var. stenophyllus)
9. astrotricha
10. axillaris
11. appendiculatus
12. albidus
  
- ✓13. blakeanus
14. beckerianus
15. beardii
16. blackii
- ✓17. brachyanthus
  
18. crispis
- ✓19. corymbosis
20. caespitululosis
21. conicus
22. comatus
23. capitatus
- ✓24. calostacyhus (var. calostachyus/ var. procerus)
25. carinatus
- ✓26. clementii
27. chortophytum
28. chamaecladus
29. chippendalei
30. carlsonii

- ✓31. *distans* (ssp *capensis*)
- 32. *decalvatus*
- 33. *declinatus*
- 34. *dissitiflorus*
- 35. *drummondii*
- 36. *divaricatus*
- ✓37. *decipiens*
  
- ✓38. *extenuatus*
- 39. *eriotrichus*
- 40. *eichleranus*
- 41. *esquamatus*
- 42. *erubescens*
- ✓43. *exaltatus* (var. *exaltatus*/ var. *semilanatus*/ var. *glaber*)
  
- 44. *fraseri*
- 45. *forrestii*
- 46. *fascicularis*
- ✓47. *fusiformis* (var. *fusiformis*/ var. *gracilis*)
  
- 48. *gardneri*
- ✓49. *gaudichaudii* (var. *parviflorus*/ var. *gaudichaudii*)
- 50. *grandiflorus*
- 51. *gomphrenoides*
  
- 52. *helichrysoides*
- ✓53. *helipteroides* (var. *minor*/ var. *helipteroides*)
- 54. *humilis*
- 55. *holosericeus*  
*Holosericeus*
- 56. *indivisus*
- ✓57. *incanus* (var. *incanus*/ var. *parviflorus*)
- 58. *incurva*

- 59. johnstonianus
  
- 60. keneallyanus
  
- ✓ 61. latifolius (var. latifolius/ var. major)
- ✓ 62. leucocoma
- 63. lanatus
- 64. lophotrichus (var. lophotrichus/ var. villosus)
- 65. lazaridus
  
- ✓ 66. macrocephalus
- 67. manglesii
- 68. marduguru
- ✓ 69. murrayii (var. murrayii/ var. major)
- ✓ 70. maconochei
- 71. mollis
  
- ✓ 72. nobilis (var. nobilis/ var. angustifolius)
  
- ✓ 73. obovatus (var. obovatus/ var. parvifolius/ var. griseus) *var. longifolius*
  
- 74. procumbens
- 75. pyramidatus
- 76. petiolatus
- ✓ 77. parviflora
- ✓ 78. parvifolius ( var. laetis/ var. parvifolius)
- 79. polakii
- ✓ 80. polystachyus (form polystachyus/ form rubriflorus/ var. pullenii/ var. arthrotrichus)
- ✓ 81. pseudohelipteroides
- 82. polycephala
- ✓ 83. pedleyanus (var. pedleyanus/ var. cosmosus)
  
- 84. rotundifolius
- 85. robynsianus

86. royceanus
87. rhodostachya
88. rotundatus
89. roei
90. remotiflorus
  
- ✓ 91. schwarzii
92. symonii
- ✓ 93. sessiliflorus (var. sessiliflorus)
94. spathulatus ( form spathulatus/ form angustatus)
- ✓ 95. spicatus ( ssp leianthus/ ssp burbidgeanus/ ssp. spicatus)
96. seminudis
97. squamigera
98. sericostachyus
99. stipitatus
100. straminea
101. stirlingii
  
102. tetrandrus
  
103. villosiflorus
  
104. wilsonii

As this list was devised from numerous texts, some over 15 years old, some name changes may have occurred. Any members who can add to or verify names on this list are invited to do so.

Thank you to Peter Abell from Sydney University's Plant Breeding & Research Institute for providing many of the reference books below:

References:

Census of the Vascular Plants of Western Australia – J.W. Green.

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Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory, Darwin, 1987.

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Flora of the Kimberly Region.

J.R. Wheeler, B.L. Rye, B.L. Koch, A.J.G. Wilson.

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ASGAP PFILOTUS STUDY GROUP

Statement of Receipts & Payments

for the year 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1999 – 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2000.

RECEIPTS:	\$
Membership Fees & Donations	45.00
Bank Interest	1.72
Total Receipts:	\$46.72

PAYMENTS

Newsletter Expenses	26.95
Postage	9.00
Stationery	5.00
Total Payments:	\$40.95

SURPLUS FOR YEAR \$5.77

SUMMARY:

Cash at bank at beginning of year	\$156.03
Surplus for year	\$5.77
Cash at bank at end of year	\$161.80