

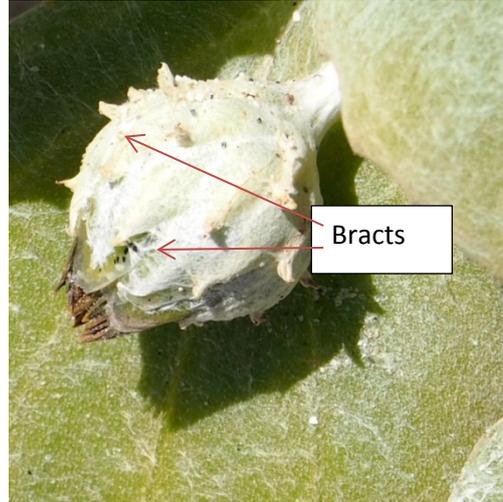
Peppy Plants November 2013

by Eleanor Bennett

Arctotheca populifolia is commonly naturalized around the coastal foredunes from Geraldton to Eyre and also South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. It is commonly called Dune Arctotheca or Beach Daisy (see also [Arctotheca populifolia](#)). **Arctotheca** is derived from the Greek, arctos meaning bear and theca meaning box or chest, in reference to the shaggy fruit; and **populifolia** from the Latin populus meaning poplar and folium meaning leaf referring to the leaf shape. It is a short-stemmed perennial herb to 30cm tall. The basal leaves are up to 7cm long and 8cm wide, with densely hairy upper and lower surfaces. There is 1 large flower head, up to 2cm across on stalks covered with dense white hairs. The outer florets are in 1 row and sterile, each with an obvious yellow petal-like structure up to 8mm long. The inner florets are tubular, bisexual and 5-lobed. The fruits are up to 5mm long and white hairy. It is a native of South Africa and Mozambique.



Ground hugging plants of *Arctotheca populifolia*.



The flower heads are solitary with several hairy bracts which are obvious in bud. The flowering stalk has dense white hairs.



The alternate hairy leaves are distinctly stalked.



The flowering head has an outer row of sterile florets and many tubular, inner, bisexual florets.