

3. *Crassula pedicellosa* (F. v. Müll.) comb. nov.; *Tillæa macrantha*, var. *pedicellosa* F. v. Müller, Fragm. Phytogr. Austr. XI (1881) 118; J. M. Black in Transact. R. Soc. S. Austr. XL (1916) 63; *T. pedicellosa* F. v. Müller, Syst. Census of Austral. Plants I (1882) 48.

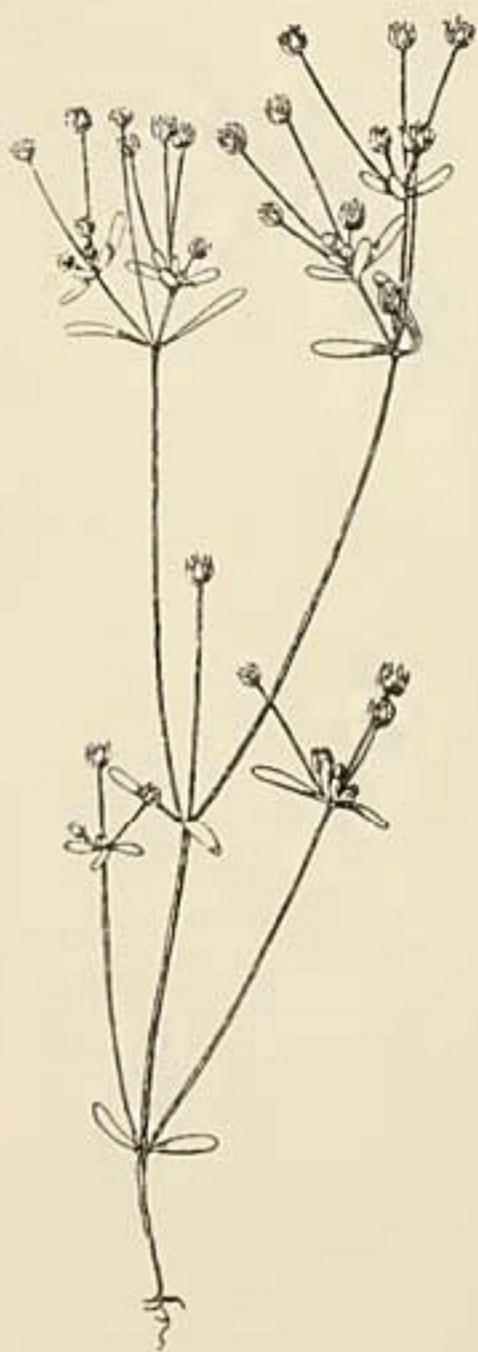


Fig. 12. *Crassula pedicellosa* (F. v. Müll.) Ostf.; cultivated specimen. (Nat. size).

In his Fragmenta XI, F. v. MÜLLER mentions (118), under *Tillæa macrantha*, a new form of which he gives the following description: Varietatem pedicellosam, pedicellis plerisque elongatis calyce pluries multotiesve longioribus detexi in pascuis fertilioribus collinis ad basim montium Stirlingi; hæc varietas quasdam Mitrasacmes species simulat præsertim etiam ramificatione parcior v. parcissima et inflorescentia passim quasi umbellata, nisi hæc planta forsitan speciem seorsam (pedicellosam) exhibet.

Shortly after (1882) he enumerates it as a distinct species, but has, as far as I am aware, not given any more elaborate description of it. As the description quoted is very incomplete, and as I have no authentic specimens of the species at my disposal, it is with some doubt that I identify with it a small *Crassula* found near Armadale; but nevertheless I think the identification a correct one, and my plants agree with specimens kindly sent me by Mr. J. M. BLACK from S. Australia

under the name of *Tillæa macrantha* var. *pedicellosa*.

The plant in question is a small erect annual (1—5 cm high),

in the poorest specimens unbranched, but usually branched. Leaves opposite with connate bases, obovate-oblong, obtuse, succulent, and, like the whole plant, more or less tinged with reddish-violet. Flowers in subumbellate cymes at the top of the branches, some with long stalks (up to 1 cm), others short-stalked or nearly sessile. Flowers 4-merous (sometimes 3-merous), sepals (about 1.5 mm long) broadly lanceolate-oblong, acute to acuminate, succulent, never spreading, longer than the subacute ovate petals (1.0—1.3 mm long). Stamina 4 (3); carpels obliquely oblong-ovate with a very short style (stigma nearly sessile), when ripe exceeding the calyx, each containing many minute (0.3 mm long) brownish seeds. Nectary scales minute, obcuneate with rounded apex (see Fig. 10 a).

Undoubtedly this species is quite distinct from *C. macrantha*, but on the other hand it is nearly related to some South-African species (sect. *Umbellata* Schönl.), namely *C. Doodii* Schönl. & Baker f., and *C. umbellata* Thunb.

My specimens were found growing in damp clayey places near Armadale (Nos. 1104, 1105, 20. Sept. 1914) and I had had it sent from the vicinity of Perth (Mrs. Davis, No. 1451, 1915). Of the latter specimens I have sown seeds and have had plants growing, from which the description above has been completed. They (see fig. 12) differed from the spontaneous specimens in richer branching, more slender growth, flowers on longer stalks, and very little reddish tinge.

Geogr. Area: S. and W. Australia.