and whitish ascending leafy stems with numerous small flowers in a dense spike. Common in lawns and wasteland in the metropolitan area. Native to South America.

_Gauchophillum polycaulum_ (Indian cudweed) is a white woolly annual with several upright stems branching from the base. It flowers in autumn; the heads are arranged in terminal, cylindrical spikes and the bracts are straw-coloured. (The rather similar _Helichrysum lanfranchii_ has its heads in globular clusters.) Occasional along creeks from Dorre Island to the Kimberley, originally from India. (See also the similar genera _Helichrysum_ and _Veltheima._)

_Gazania linearis_ (gazania) is a clump-forming, spring-flowering perennial, rooting at the nodes, with upright, linear leaves, dark green with a white-woolly undersurface. The flower heads may be up to 10cm across, and are brilliant mixtures of yellow, oranges and reds. A garden escape found increasingly on roadsides and wasteland around settlements, especially in coastal areas, the wheatbelt, and from Kalgoorlie to Esperance. Native to South Africa.

_Gerertia peronata_ (gerertia) is a small, stiff-stemmed annual growing to 20cm high, covered with pale, bristly hairs. The leaves are narrow, slightly lobed near the base of the plant, dark green above but pale below. Each stem is topped by a small yellow and brown flower head, with 8 to 10 ray flowers. The entire head is encased by stiff, spiny bracts that harden into a burr on maturity. Each burr contains three to six seeds. A weed of roadsides, railway lines, townsites, and disturbed woodlands and shrublands between Mingenew, Moora and Meckering. Flowers in spring; native to South Africa.

_Heliocnemus ultracordatus_ (Cetan weed) is a sprawling, slightly-hairy annual with somewhat spoon-shaped leaves. In spring, the solitary yellow heads are produced on swollen, hollow stalks. As the fruits mature, the heads become dark brown, club-shaped structures. An inconspicuous and easily overlooked weed of roadsides and disturbed areas, found throughout the south-west. Native to the Mediterranean.

_Heliocnemus annuus_ (sunflower) is an escape from cultivation, occurring on roadsides and wasteland near settlements from Denmark to Bunbury and east to the Avon Valley. It is common around Geraldton. _H. debils_ is a more slender plant, much branched, with rough, reddish stems. The 6cm, bright yellow flower heads with black centres are solid or at the end of long stalks, and are produced through summer and autumn. It occurs on roadsides and wasteland around Perth. _H. tuberosus_ (Jerusalem artichoke) is an erect perennial to 3m with oval toothed leaves and yellow flower heads with a greenish centre. It is cultivated for its tuberous roots, and has been recorded as escaping in the Perth area. All flower in summer and are native to North America. (See also the somewhat similar _Verbesina._)

_Helichrysum lanfranchii_ (was _Gauchophillum lanfranchii_, _Pseudogauchophillum lanfranchii_) (Jersey cudweed) is a grey-hairy annual, usually
with several upright stems with oblong leaves and terminal globular flower clusters that are white-woolly with straw-coloured bracts. Flowers in early summer. Common and widespread in disturbed ground throughout the south-west and, less commonly, throughout the Kimberley, Pilbara and rangelands. A cosmopolitan plant.

*Helminthoboea echinosidea* (was *Pieris echinosidea*) (on tongue) is an upright, bristly annual or short-lived perennial with oval, wavy-edged leaves. The yellow flower heads are produced in spring, borne terminally on short branches. The bracts are bristly, with the outer ones heart-shaped. A weed of disturbed ground near settlements, from Perth to the central wheatbelt. Native to the Mediterranean.

*Hyptochoris* has two species in WA, *H. gilpinii* (smooth catesay) and *H. nasinata* (flowerweed). They are difficult to tell apart - the WA populations may, in fact, be hybrids - but it is probably not necessary to distinguish them for most practical purposes. They are annuals or short-lived perennials, with a basal rosette of leaves and yellow, dandelion-like flower heads (opening in the morning and closing in the afternoon) at the top of slender, leafless stalks. *H. gilpinii* is usually annual, with smooth leaves and heads up to 1.5cm across, while *H. nasinata* is usually perennial, with rough, bristly leaves and heads up to 3cm across; however, intermediates of all features exist.

*Lactuca* (lettuce) is a northern hemisphere genus of about 70 species, of which two have become naturalised in WA. They are summer-growing annuals with a short-lived basal rosette of leaves and an erect leafy stem, 1-2m tall, repeatedly branching at the top to form an open pyramid of small yellow flower heads. *L. saligna* (wild lettuce) has narrow, deeply-lobed stem leaves and no prickles, while *L. serriola* (prickly lettuce) has prickly stems and prickly, deeply lobed leaves that tend to be held vertically, orientated north/south or east/west. Both are found in crops, paddocks, along roadsides and on wasteland and in disturbed bushland throughout the south-west, but prickly lettuce is the more common. It is frequent in horticultural areas at Carnarvon. Native to Europe. Both are occasionally mis-identified as skeleton weed.

*Lamotea sarmentosa* is a prostrate perennial, spreading by long stolons that produce leafy rosettes 8-15cm apart that root at each rosette. Leaves are heart-shaped, somewhat bony, primarily lobbied and toothed. Flower heads are usually solitary, semi-spherical, with yellow ray florets up to 20cm across, produced throughout most of the year. Found on beaches from Coral Bay to the Pilbara, it could be native or naturalised. Native to tropical Indian Ocean coastsides.

*Leucentodon sarmentosus* (hand-bit) is a hairy to sparsely-hairy short-lived perennial with a basal rosette of leaves and single, yellow heads at the top of leafless stalks. The heads are 2cm across and the outer florets are greyish violet beneath. Flowers in late spring. An occasional weed of lawns and wasteland from Perth to Esperance. Native to Europe.
Oligocarpus calendulaceus (was Olearia calendulaceae) is a spreading, aromatic annual herb to 30cm, with narrow lanceolate leaves and yellow flowers in spring. The fruits are unwinged. Found in disturbed scrubland from Kalgoorlie to the Nullarbor. Native to South Africa.

Onopordum acanthum (spear thistle) DP
is a distinctive plant, with a large rosette of grey, prickly leaves and numerous purple flower heads clustered in the centre, all at ground level. Flowers in early summer. Occasional in the Dongara, Bruce Rock, Lake Grace and Esperance areas. Is a target for biological control. Native to the Mediterranean.

Onoschnion are strongly scented, erect annuals with small feathery leaves and globular, bright golden flower heads without ray florets. O. piliferum (matricaria, globe chamomile) (was Pentzia globifera) has flower heads almost 1cm across, borne terminally on the end of long stalks. It occurs occasionally in pasture and crops, and on roadsides in the eastern wheatbelt, and in pastures near Moora.

O. suffrutescens (Calochoa daisy) (was Pentzia suffrutescens) is a taller, more robust plant with smaller flower heads borne on short branches like a golden umbrella. Flowers in early summer. Found occasionally on roadsides, mostly in the central wheatbelt and spreading in grazed woodlands around Kalgoorlie. Both native to South Africa.
dominant weedy *Sesuvium* around Perth. It is a disturbance opportunist, for example after fire in native bushland, where it is part of the natural succession process and should not be removed. Around Perth and Rockingham, a particular form with lanceolate, slightly serrated leaves, behaves as a weed of road verges and pastures (where it tends to be left alone by grazing animals). The plants are usually unbranched, to about 40 cm. The ray flowers are 5-10 mm long. Flowers in spring. S. dichotoma is an erect perennial to 1.2 m, with few branches below the inflorescence, which consists of heads with yellow disc florets only. It is an aggressive coloniser of disturbed forest roadsides between Perth and Pemberton. Flowers in spring. A native of eastern Australia, it may also be native here. *S. elegans* is a low-growing coastal species with stunning magenta ray florets (see p. xviii). It is found from Bunbury to Albany and is originally from South Africa. *S. glaucescens* (holly leaved seersucker) is an erect, much branched small shrub to 1 m, with dense obovate leaves and purple ray florets on long stalks. It is originally from South Africa and is found in banksia woodlands in the Albany area. *S. jacobaea* (rapewort) DP is an erect, hairless biennial to 1.5 m, branching above to display the golden-rayed flower heads. Known from near Walpole and targeted for eradication. Native to Europe. *S. vulgaris* (groundsel) is an erect annual with irregularly lobed leaves and groups of small, nodding, cylindrical flower heads without ray florets. A common weed in summer-irrigated vegetable crops on the Swan Coastal Plain, also an occasional weed of gardens and disturbed areas from Perth to the Pinjarra River National Park. Native to Europe.

*Sedeveria orientalis* (Indian weed) is an upright, slightly hairy annual with opposite toothed leaves and small, yellow, daisy-like heads in the leaf axils. Found in the Pilbara, and in forested areas between Perth and Albany. A cosmopolitan plant.

*Silybum marianum* (variegated thistle, St Mary's thistle) DP is an annual or biennial that first forms a rosette of large leaves then send up sparsely branched stems up to 2 m. The leaves are convoluted with prickly margins, and have white patches on the upper surface that give them a variegated appearance. The solitary, purple heads are surrounded by long, spiny bracts. Flowers in late spring and early summer. An agricultural and forestry weed, commonly found in the lower south-west and also near Northampton. Occasionally grown as a medicinal herb. Native to southern Europe.

*Sedum canadense* (garden stonecrop) is a large erect perennial to 2 m, with sprays of small golden flowers. It grows as a garden escape and on roadsides. Originally from North America, it is found around Perth, Capel and Esperance.

**Sedum perespinosum** (bindii, jo-jo, echina) was *S. sesidii* is a low, mat-forming annual with deeply divided leaves and inconspicuous heads where the stems branch. It flowers in spring and then each seed develops a short, sharp spine. A common weed of lawns and roadsides between Perth and Albany. Native to South America.