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aristata in Western Australia

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***Agrostis castellana* (Poaceae) mis-identified as *A. capillaris* var. *aristata* in Western Australia**

In the process of assisting with the updating of *Western Weeds: a Guide to the Weeds of Western Australia* (Hussey & Keighery 1997) we became aware that Batson (1998) had identified *Agrostis castellana* Bois. et Reuter as the dominant species in ‘bent grass’ pastures in South-eastern Australia, which had previously been reported as being dominated by *A. capillaris* L. (syn. *A. tenuis* Sibth.).

In the Census of Western Australian Plants – FloraBase (Western Australian Herbarium 2006), *A. capillaris* var. *capillaris* and *A. capillaris* var. *aristata* (Parn.) Druce were listed as occurring in Western Australia, and under the same names were treated by Hussey *et al.* (1997) and described and keyed out by Wheeler *et al.* (2002). Upon examination, the PERTH collections of *A. capillaris* var. *aristata* were all found to fit the description of *A. castellana* as given in Batson (1998).

The Census has therefore been updated and now lists *A. capillaris* and *A. castellana* as introduced weeds in Western Australia (Western Australian Herbarium 2006).

References

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