



Ptilotus nobilis

Showy Foxtail



(Seeds of South Australia)



(Bell, B & Bell, M, Encyclopedia of Life Images)



(Weiher, E, iNaturalist Australia)

Form: Medium shrub **Height:** 0.5 – 1.5 m **Spread:** 1 – 2 m **Flowers:** Pink **Type:** Spikes **Flowering time:** All year round

Ecological functions:



Soils: sand, clay or loam; acidic, alkaline or neutral

Germination rate: 2 to 6 weeks

Seed collecting: the fruits contain fine hairs that may cause an allergic reaction. Collect the fruit heads when they are dry to a pale straw colour. Each fruit should come off the head easily when fingers are rubbed up the stem. Collect more fruits than required as not all fruits will have a viable seed.

Seed treatment: none

Sowing requirements: sprinkle seeds on surface. Cover with light gravel. Do not bury seeds deeply. Place in a warm sunny position and keep moist. Sow in Autumn or late Spring.

Position: full sun

Supplementary watering: minimal

Uses: low-spreading shrub with dense covering of 'Pussy Tail' pink flowers. Can tolerate a wide range of soils. Excellent rockery plant. Occurs throughout the arid parts of South Australia.

Notes: *P. exaltatus*, *Ozlotus Abell Star*, is bred for the cut flower market and landscaping.