

## Supplementary Material

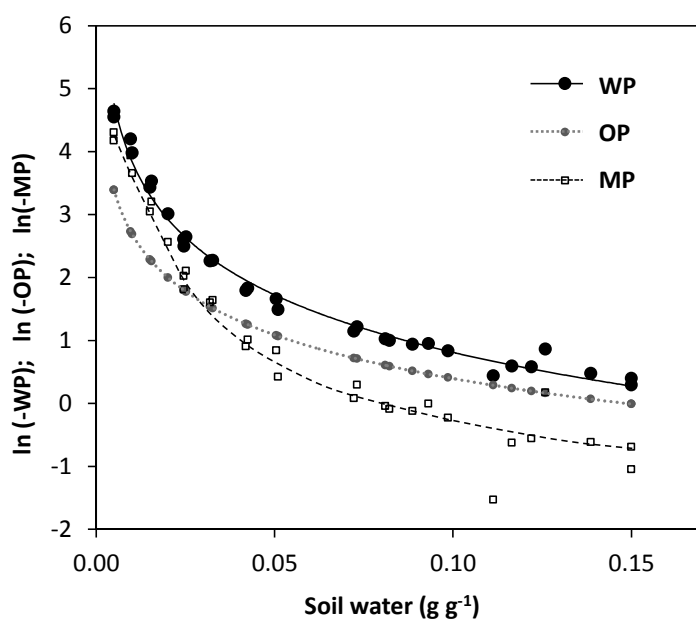
### Drought tolerances of three stem-succulent halophyte species of an inland semiarid salt lake system

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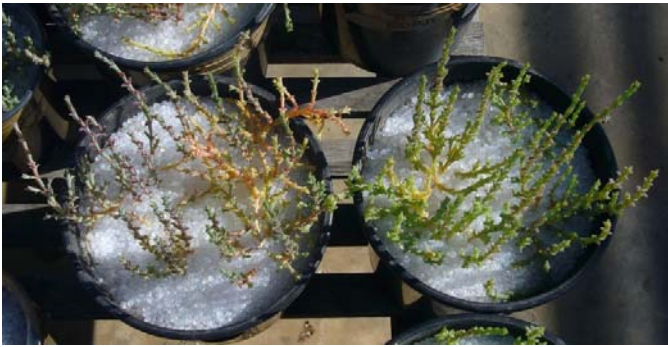
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**Fig. S1.** Soil water potential (WP) and its components, osmotic potential (OP) and matric potential (MP), at different soil water contents. The figure shows the natural logarithm of the absolute value of the potentials in MPa. Water potentials were measured psychrometrically. Osmotic potentials were estimated from the salinity level in saturated soil extracts ( $24.4 \text{ dS m}^{-1}$ ; see main text); matric potentials were estimated by difference. Soil water contents are expressed as g water per g dry soil. The soil used in this experiment was collected from the margins of a salt lake north east of Kalannie, Western Australia ( $30^{\circ}13'39'' \text{ S}$ ,  $117^{\circ}22'29'' \text{ E}$ ).



*Tecticornia indica*

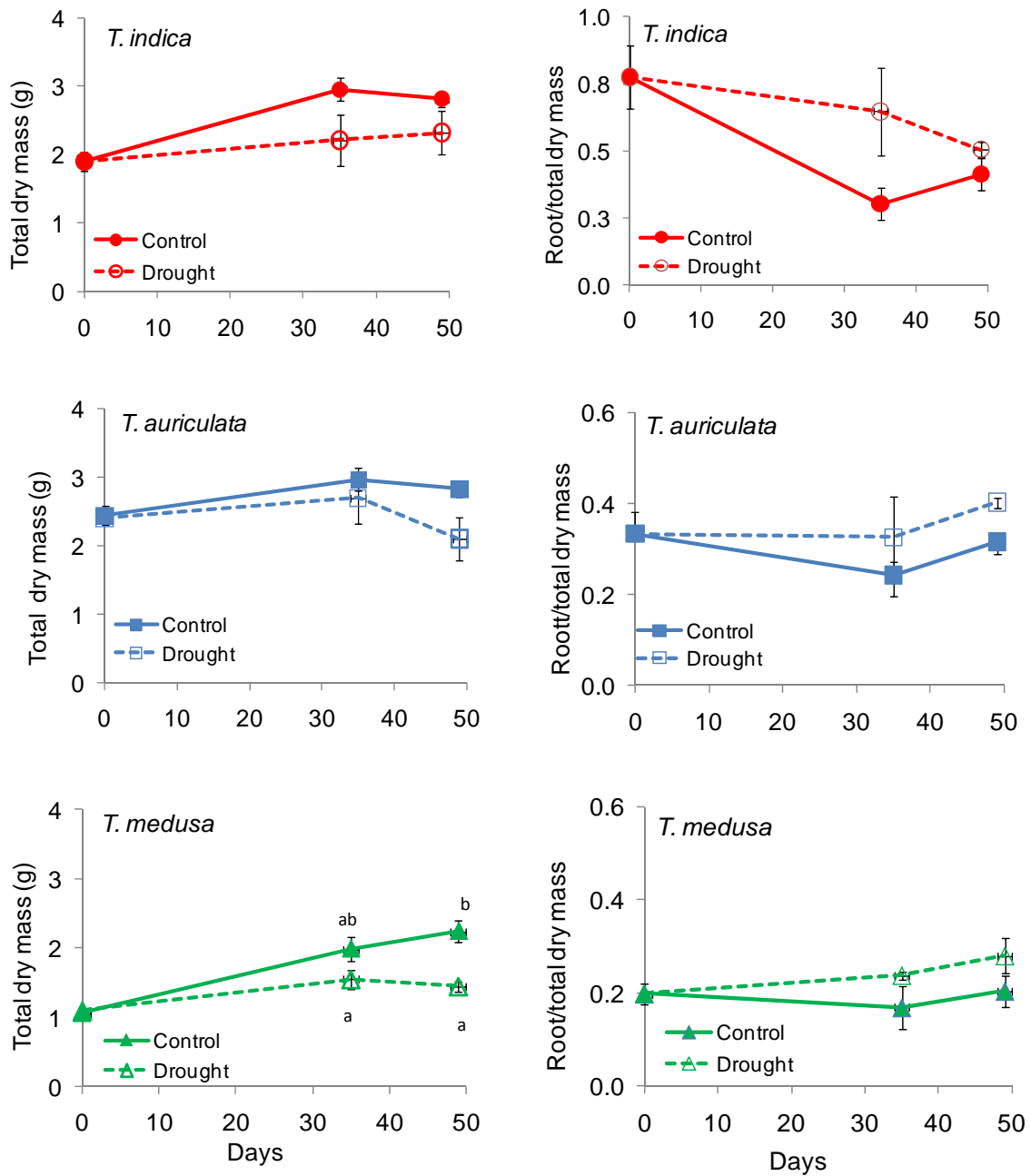


*Tecticornia auriculata*

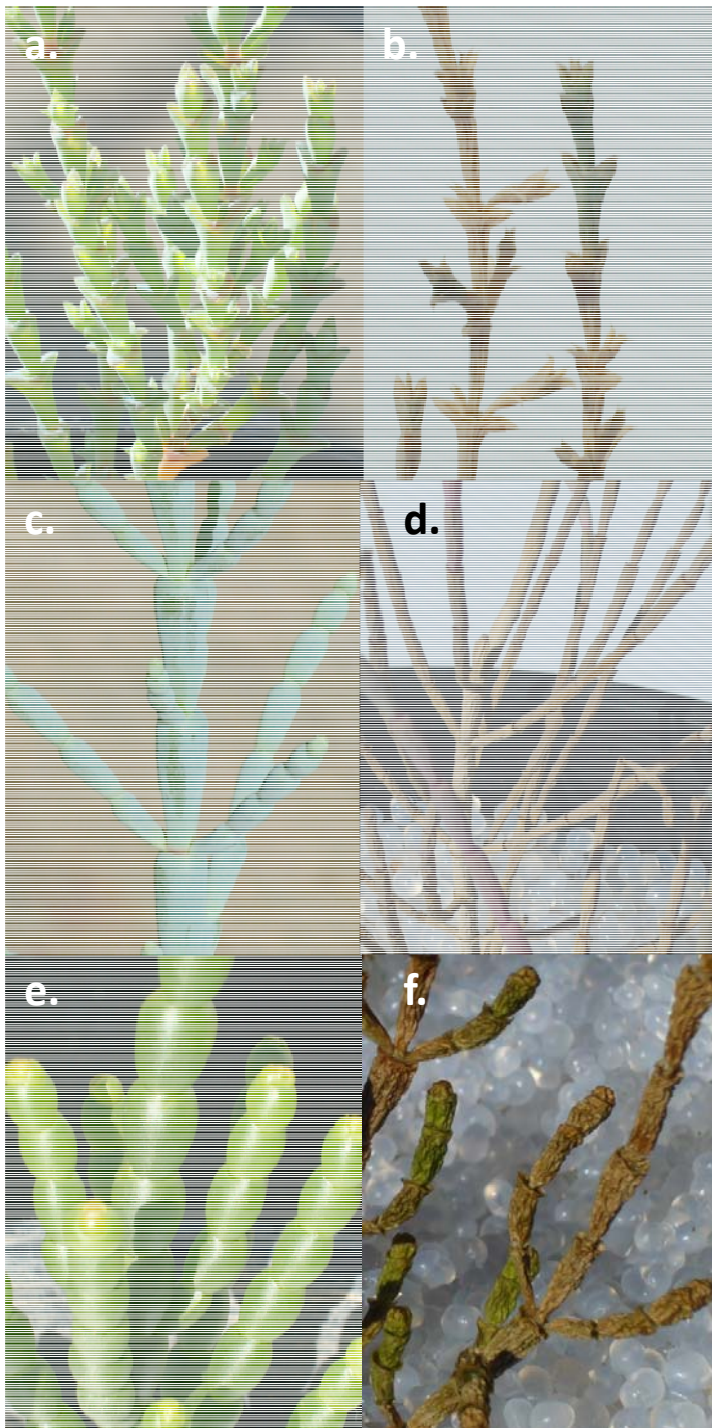


*Tecticornia medusa*

**Fig. S2.** Examples of plants of the three species after 4 weeks of drought (left pots) compared to well-watered plants (right pots). The examples are of single-species pots; please note that *T. indica* and *T. medusa* were planted at four plants per pot, and *T. auriculata* at two plants per pot.



**Fig. S3.** Total dry mass and the ratio of root to total plant dry mass as a consequence of drought for *Tecticornia* species growing in monoculture (single species pots). Mean values and standard errors for control (well-watered) and treated pots (drought). Different letters indicate significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) comparing all harvests and treatments.



**Fig. S4.** Healthy and severely dehydrated tissue of well-watered plants (left) and plants subjected to drought for 89 days (right). Species are *T. indica* (a, b), *T. auriculata* (c, d) and *T. medusa* (e, f).