

Blepharis priunosa

Family: Acanthaceae



Collection Number: 76

Description: A medium sized, perennial woody shrub. It is erect with many branches growing from the base of the plant, very woody, and the stems are light grey or whitish in colour. The whole plant is extremely spiny, typical of many *Blepharis* spp., and dense. The leaves are simple, elliptical to linear, leaf margins are dentate with tiny spines (spinous toothed). 4 leaves are whorled, around long, thin, white spines. The inflorescence is made up of 2 or 4 flowers. The petals are lilac with deep purple veining. Seeds are retained in dried spiny flower bracts.

Habitat: *Blepharis pruinosa* grows on the plains of the reserve, in coarse sand and gravel, often amongst rocks. It is common in localised areas, growing on Keerweder, Toskaan and Draaihoek.



WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)

NAME: *Blepharis pruinosa*

Collection No: 76

Date: 17/05/01

Collector: Louise Clapham

Grid ref.: 2416 Cc

Locality: Draaihoek farm, 2 km west of track to Toskaan.

Habitat: Stony plain, grassland and shrubs. In sandy gravel. Full sun.

Notes: Small - med. perennial, woody shrub. Erect, many branches. 4 simple leaves to a whorl. Many thorns, spiny flower bracts. Inflorescence of 2 or 4 flowers. Petals lilac with purple veining. Seeds retained in dried spiny flower bracts. Locally common.