

# *Crotalaria virgultalis*

**Family:** Fabaceae



**Collection Number:** 100

**Description:** A very slender, erect herb. The main stem may be slightly woody, lower branches are grey-green and waxy. Stems are particularly long and fine, leaves are linear, simple and alternately arranged.

The inflorescence is a long raceme. Flowers are bright yellow, the petals are differentiated. In the budding stage, the sepals are a purplish colour. The fruit is a seed pod typical of the family.

**Habitat:** Dune belt, growing on stabilised dune slopes, sometimes in the shade of *Acacia* trees. They appear to be more common in the southern part of the dune belt, from Wolwedans southwards, but nowhere are they abundant.



**WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)**

**NAME:** *Crotalaria virgultalis*

**Collection No:** 100

**Date:** 22/07/01

**Collector :** Louise Clapham

**Grid ref.:** 2516 Ac

**Locality:** Stellarine/Aandster border, back of Gorrasis mountains.  
Top of the dune before riverbed.

**Habitat:** Top of vegetated dune, grassland, partial shade beneath  
*Acacia erioloba*

**Plant features:** An erect, very slender shrub. Leaves simple, linear.  
Petals bright yellow, sepals at bud stage purplish. Fruit a rounded pod.

**Other notes:** Locally common.

INBRI - Collection Data Form

Collectors No. 100 Date 22.07.2001  
 Collector/s Louise Clapham GPS S  
 Locality (please describe properly, not just grid/gps) Stellarine/ E  
Andaster border. Back of Carrisis mts, Grid 2516 Ac  
past horseshoe turn-off but before river bed. Altitude \_\_\_\_\_  
 Aspect Slope level Exposure part shade, Photo no's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Voucher for mostly full sun.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT Please give as much information as possible

Species Fabaceae, Crostularia spp? Perennial/Annual \_\_\_\_\_  
 Habit (eg: dwarf shrub) Small erect shrub.  
 Height ± 50 cm Occurrence (eg: common) Rare  
 Flower/Inflorescence (colour, shape, size, smell, texture) Bright yellow - petals differentiated  
banner, keel, wings.

Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules) Simple, linear (very  
long + slender), alternate.

Stems and bark (colour, texture, habit - eg: erect stem with yellow peeling papery bark - presence or  
 absence and smell of sap or latex - eg: milky latex with unpleasant smell) Main stem woody,  
lower branches grey green, slightly woody. Stems very long  
and slender.

Fruits and seed (presence/absence, shape, colour, edibility and taste if edible, single or clustered,  
 maturity) are get A) slightly rounded pod. Pale green  
turning slightly reddish.

Roots/Underground organs (shape, texture, colour, size) \_\_\_\_\_

Other (eg. uses, ecology) \_\_\_\_\_

Indigenous names and languages \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat		Substrate	Soil type	Moisture	Biotic effect
cliff face	riverbank/ streambank	soil ✓	sand ✓		road/railside
mountain/hill peak	seepage area	stony/rocky soil	sandy loam	well-drained ✓	cultivated land
mountain/hill slope	waterfall/ rapids	gravel	loam	seasonally waterlogged	abandoned land
ravine/kloof/ gorge	littoral	termite mound	humus-rich	permanently waterlogged	heavily grazed
talus/scree	unknown	bare rock	loamy clay	moist/damp	garden
dune slope <del>WAT</del>		water	clay	freestanding water	plantation
dune crest ✓	Vegetation	roots	calcrete	running water	recently burnt
interdunal street	desert ✓	other	black turf	mist/fog	disturbed - other
ridge	shrubland open/closed		salt/brack		other
rocky outcrop	woodland open/closed		gravel		On the top of a flattish, well vegetated dune, slightly shaded by a camelthorn.
slain	thornbush savanna		dolomite		
plateau	forest		granite		
valley	grassland ✓		lime		
donga/ditch/gulley	karoo		mica schist		
depression/ pan			quartzite		
dam			other		
dry bed of river/stream					
floodplain					
estuary/lagoon					
marsh/swamp/wetland					
river/stream					

FOR HERBARIUM USE ONLY

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Det. By..... date..... Accession.....

flowering code		fruiting code	voucher		duplicates
	mature		genebank		
	immature		ethnobotanic		
	remains				
	absent				