

# *Dicoma capensis*

**Family:** Asteraceae



**Collection Number:** 34

**Description:** A creeper. The flowers have white / brown petals with pale purple stamens. Leaves are long, slim and crinkly; grey-green in colour. The leaves and stem are covered in soft, white "wool". The seeds are very fluffy and feathery. This specimen was collected in July, the flowers were mostly dried out, seeds had formed and some had already dispersed. Growth of the plant followed particularly good summer rainfall.

**Habitat:** Dry riverbeds

Various spp. of *Dicoma* have medicinal properties. *D. capensis* is taken for fever, colds and 'flu', also for hypertension, diarrhoea and cancer. Fresh + dry root, root decoctions and tinctures are used.



**WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)**

**NAME:** *Dichoma capensis*

**Collection No:** 34

**Date:** 08/07/00

**Collector:** Louise Clapham

**Grid ref.:** 2515 Bb

**Locality:** Gorrasis Gap, dry riverbed, near sociable weavers' nest.

**Habitat:** Open scrubland, dry riverbed.

**Plant features:** Spreading creeper. Inflorescence made up of many ray florets with white/brown petals and purple stamens. Leaves and stem grey/green and covered in soft, white wool. Hundreds of fluffy seeds.