

Dyerophytum africanum

Family: Plumbaginaceae



Collection Number: 53

Description: A perennial shrub which can grow up to 60 cm tall. Stems are slender, green and woody with a thin wax layer. Leaves are small, grey-green and broadly spoon-shaped. Most of the leaves, particularly those towards the base of the plant, are covered in very soft, fine white wool. The inflorescence is a dense cluster of unusually arranged flowers. Flowers are small, yellowish tubes, turning pink at the edges. They extend from papery, transversely pleated, yellow to red sepals.

Habitat: Rocky, stony or gravelly areas, on the plains and on the slopes of mountains. *Dyerophytum africanum* is common on the Reserve. It also occurs in the arid northern Cape, being widespread throughout much of the Richtersveld.



WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)

NAME: *Dyerophytum africanum*

Collection No: 53

Date: 18/02/01

Collector: Louise Clapham

Grid ref.: 2416 Cc

Locality: Draaihoek farm. In the kloof behind the farmhouse, on a slope halfway up the Nubib mountains.

Habitat: Mountain slope, fairly steep, very rocky..

Plant features: Perennial woody shrub, 30 - 40 cm. Leaves small, simple, obovate., covered in soft, white wool. Flower arrangement very unusual, petals fused in long yellowish tube, sepals papery, pleated and reddish.

Other notes: Locally common.

NBRI - Collection Data Form

Collectors No. 53 Date 18.02.2001
 Collector/s Louise Clapham GPS
 Locality (please describe properly, not just grid/gps) Drainbrook farm Kloof behind the farmhouse on a plateau/slope halfway up Nubuh mountains Grid 2416 Cc
 Aspect Slope gentle/steep Exposure Partial shade, some in full sun Photo no's
 Voucher for

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT Please give as much information as possible

Species ? Dycophytum africanum? Perennial/Annual
 Habit (eg: dwarf shrub) Small, woody shrub
 Height \pm 30-40cm Occurrence (eg: common) Common in small areas where water may have run after rain.
 Flower/Inflorescence (colour, shape, size, smell, texture) Inflorescence very unusual. A big yellowish tube, turning pale pink at the end. Growing out of a strange, bottle-shaped, crinkled part of the flower (Calyx?)
 Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules) Small, simple, obovate entire margins, blue-green colour. Most of the leaves, particularly towards the base of the plant, covered in very fine soft white wool.
 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) Stems woody green with a wax layer on them.
 Fruits and seed (presence/absence, shape, colour, edibility and taste if edible, single or clustered, maturity)
 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		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 ✓		
plain	thornbush savanna		dolomite		
plateau	forest		granite		
valley	grassland		lime		
tonga/ditch/gulley	karoo		mica schist		
depression/ pan			quartzite		
dam			other		
dry bed of river/stream					
floodplain					
estuary/lagoon					
marsh/swamp/ wetland					
river/stream					

OR HERBARIUM USE ONLY

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et. By..... date..... Accession.....

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

