

Gisekia africana var *africana*

Family: Aizoaceae



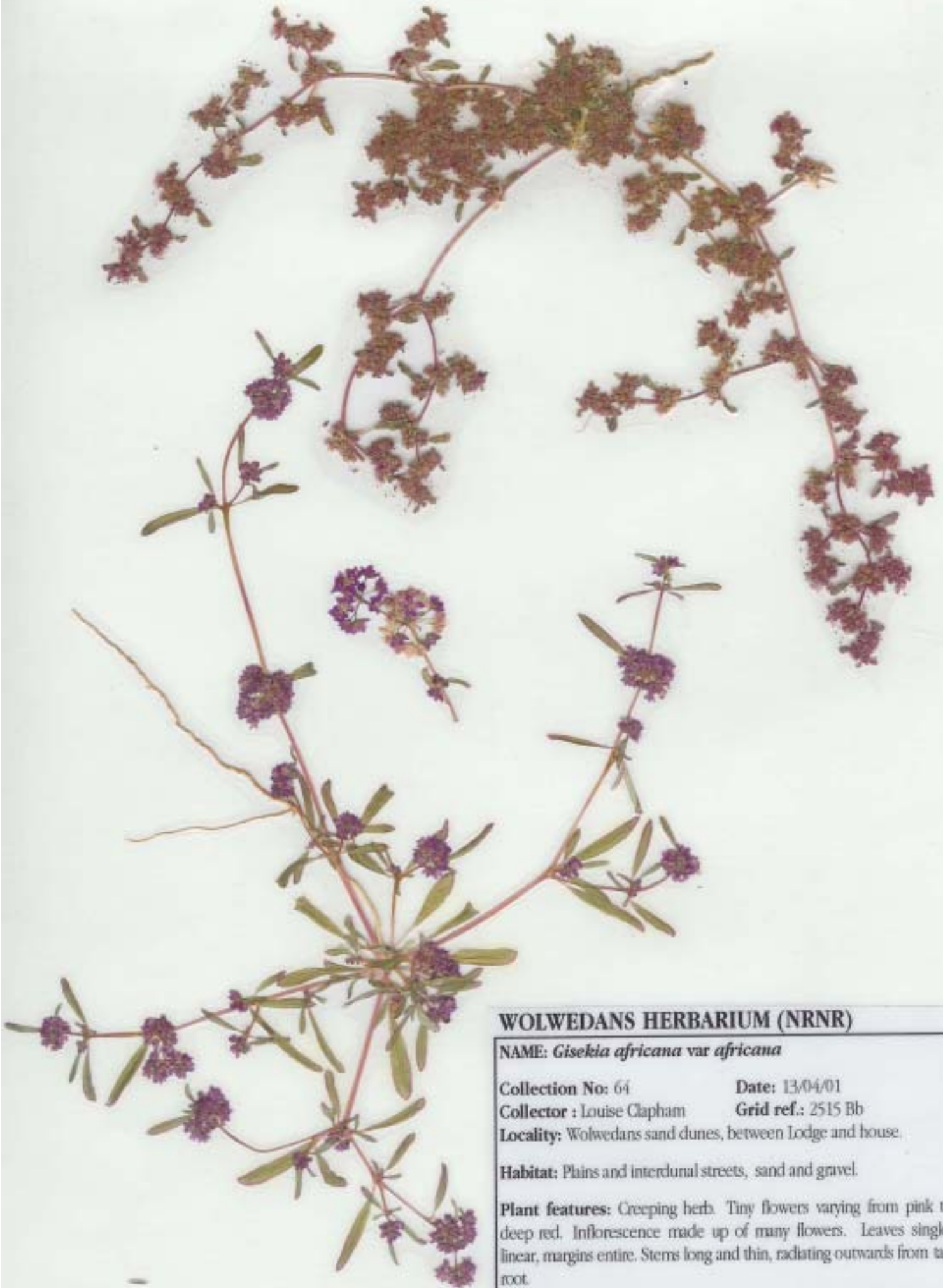
Collection Number: 64

Description: A prostrate annual herb with slender, spreading branches radiating out from a central base where the tap root grows. Leaves are simple, linear and grow in pairs. Flowers grow in clusters and vary in colour from pale pink to deep red. Older stems may also be red.

Habitat: *Gisekia africana* grows on the plains of the reserve and is common on the more level areas between dune crests in the dune belt. It also grows on the dunes of the Kalahari.

General information: This annual is very fast to grow and flower after rain. Given sufficient rain it may grow very densely, forming a pink 'carpet'. In the evenings it has a sweet smell reminiscent of honey.





WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)

NAME: *Gisekia africana* var *africana*

Collection No: 64

Date: 13/04/01

Collector : Louise Clapham

Grid ref.: 2515 Bb

Locality: Wolwedans sand dunes, between Lodge and house.

Habitat: Plains and interdunal streets, sand and gravel.

Plant features: Creeping herb. Tiny flowers varying from pink to deep red. Inflorescence made up of many flowers. Leaves single, linear, margins entire. Stems long and thin, radiating outwards from tap root.

Other notes: Very common. Strong, sweet scent in evenings

NBRI - Collection Data Form

Collectors No. G.H. Gisekia africana Date 13. Oct. 2001
 Collector/s Louise Clapham GPS.....
 Locality (please describe properly, not just grid/gps) Wolwedans
sand dunes, between the lodge and Grid.....
the house Altitude.....
 Aspect Slope level Exposure full sun Photo no's.....
 Voucher for.....

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT Please give as much information as possible

Species Gisekia ? Perennial/Annual

Habit (eg: dwarf shrub) Creeping herb

Height few cm Occurrence (eg: common) Very common

Flower/Inflorescence (colour, shape, size, smell, texture) Tiny flowers varying from white to pink + deep pink. Inflorescence a panicle. Very strong sweet smell esp. in the evening. Form a pink carpet.

Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules) Single, linear margin entire

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) Multi-stemmed at the base of the plant.

Fruits and seed (presence/absence, shape, colour, edibility and taste if edible, single or clustered, maturity) absent

Roots/Underground organs (shape, texture, colour, size) Single tap root, long, white

Other (eg: uses, ecology).....

Indigenous names and languages.....

Habitat		Substrate	Soil type	Moisture	Biotic effect
cliff face	riverbank/ streambank	soil	sand ✓	tidal	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
tallus/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	Sand.	salt/brack		other disturbed areas, in between
rocky outcrop	woodland open/closed		gravel ✓		tyre ruts & farm tracks
plain ✕	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

ID.....

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

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

INBRI - Collection Data Form

Collectors No. 90 Date 20.06.2001
 Collectors Louise Clapham GPS.....
 Locality (please describe properly, not just grid/gps) Handster
riverbed, behind Gossuin mts. Grid 2515 Bd
 Aspect..... Slope gentle Exposure full sun Altitude.....
 Voucher for..... Photo no's.....

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT. Please give as much information as possible

Species Cisebia africana Annual
Perennial
 Habit (eg: dwarf shrub) Very low growing, spreading shrub
 Height ± 20 cm Occurrence (eg: common) locally common
 Flower/inflorescence (colour, shape, size, smell, texture) Very small flowers clustered together, vivid deep pink colour. 5 petals.

Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules) Simple, rounded,
Succulent? Blue/green colour. Linear.

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) Stem woody at base. Changing from grey/brown to greenish + longer branches turning to very vivid deep pink.

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	silt ✓		road/raillside
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
river/flood gorge	floral	termitic mound	humus-rich	permanently waterlogged	heavily grazed
alluvial/slope	unknown	bare rock	loamy clay	moist/damp	garden
turf slope		water	clay	free-standing water	plantation
turf crest	Vegetation	rocks	calcrete	running water	recently burnt
terrestrial stream	desert	other	black turf	moist/fog	disturbed - other
ridge	shrubland ✓ open/seasonal		salt/brack		other
rocky outcrop ✓	woodland open/closed		gravel		
plain	thompson savanna		oolite		
plateau	forest		granite		
valley	grassland ✓		lime		
conjunction/gully	karoo		mica schist		
depression/pan			quartzite		
dam			other		
dry bed of river/stream					
foodplain					
estuary/lagoon					
marsh/swamp/wetland					
river/stream					

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