

Helichrysum roseo-niveum

South-west edelweiss/Everlasting

Family: Asteraceae



Collection Number: 113

Description: *Helichrysum roseo-niveum* is an attractive shrub-like herb. It is very similar in appearance to *Helichrysum candolleianum* and the two can easily be confused, they often share the common name 'South-west edelweiss' or 'Everlasting'. The outer bracts of the inflorescence are silvery white, the inner ones are deep pink. The florets making up the centre of the inflorescence are bright yellow. The obovate leaves distinguish *H. roseo-niveum*, they are slightly more rounded than leaves of *H. candolleianum*. The leaves are grey-green and densely covered in fine white hairs forming wool. *H. roseo-niveum* has more wool around it than *H. candolleianum*, the shrub also appears more dense and compact. Older stems become slightly woody, reddish and shiny.

Habitat: *H. roseo-niveum* was thought to be endemic to Namibia, but is now known to occur in the Richtersveld, in South Africa. It occurs in Damaraland, as well as in the south of Namibia.

Helichrysum gariëpinum also grows on NamibRand and looks very similar to *H. roseo-niveum*.



WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)

NAME: *Helicbrysum roseo-niveum*

Collection No: 113

Date: 06/09/01

Collector : Louise Clapham

Grid ref.: 2515 Bb

Locality: Wolwedans Farm, approx. 1 km north of campsite, main road.

Habitat: Plains and close to dry riverbeds, sand and gravel, calcrete.

Plant features: Annual dwarf shrub, stems semi-erect. Many inflorescences form densely packed head. Outer flowers white, inner flowers pink to deep red, yellow centre. Pleasant herbal scent. Leaves simple, linear, grey-green. Fine white hairs.