

Monechma divaricatum

Wild lucerne

Family: Acanthaceae



Collection Number: 79

Description: Perennial shrub, up to 1m in height. Stems are very erect, stems and branches slender. Leaves are arranged opposite to each other, they are simple and linear to lanceolate. Flowers are pinkish mauve with white or purple markings. The petals are lobed.

Habitat: The shrub favours sandy soils and is widespread throughout the savannas of southern Africa, but on NamibRand it is not very common.



WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)

NAME: *Monechma divaricatum*

Collection No: 79

Date: 17/05/01

Collector: Louise Clapham

Grid ref.: 2416 Cc

Locality: Draaihoek farm, at the picnic area, beneath the large *Boscia*.

Habitat: Large dry riverbed, in course sand gravel. In shade.

Plant features: Perennial shrub, about 1m. Slender, erect stems. Leaves opposite, simple, linear to lanceolate. Flowers pinkish mauve and white, lobed.

Other notes: Uncommon.

INBRI - Collection Data Form

Collectors No. 79 Date 17.05.01
 Collector/s Louise Clapham GPS
 Locality (please describe properly, not just grid/gps) Dashihoek
 farm, beneath large *Boscia*, picnic area. Grid 2416 Cc
 Aspect Slope level Exposure Shade Photo no's
 Voucher for

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT Please give as much information as possible

Species ~~Med shrub~~ *Monechma divaricatum* Perennial/Annual

Habit (eg: dwarf shrub) Med. shrub

Height 1.5m Occurrence (eg: common) Not common

Flower/Inflorescence (colour, shape, size, smell, texture) Purple/pink flower. Small, petals appear fused but larger petal with 3 lobes

Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules) Opposite leaf arrangement. Leaves simple, lanceolate to 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) Stems erect, branches very slender, woody at base

Fruits and seed (presence/absence, shape, colour, edibility and taste if edible, single or clustered maturity) No fruits at present

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/cloof/ 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		
donga/ditcr/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				