

Veronica anagallis-aquatica

Water speedwell

Family: Scrophulariaceae



Collection Number: 110

Description: An erect annual herb, the main stem is thick, fleshy and reddish. It often roots at the lower nodes. The leaves are lanceolate to elliptical, and sessile. The inflorescence is a dense raceme, with small, pale blue flowers.

Habitat: As the Latin name *aquatica* suggests, this herb grows in or near water. It is therefore not commonly seen on NamibRand, and will only occur in areas that will remain damp for a while. After particularly good rainfall, the sand around the rock pools below the waterfall at Draaihoek becomes saturated, which is the kind of habitat this plant requires. In wetter areas it is considered a weed and is widespread in southern Africa.



WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)

NAME: *Veronica anagallis - aquatica*

Collection No: 110

Date: 06/08/01

Collector: Louise Clapham

Grid ref.: 2416 Cc

Locality: Draaihoek farm, near the base of the waterfall, amongst pools.

Habitat: Wetland, in a kloof, in saturated coarse sand near rock pools.

Plant features: Erect annual herb. The main stem thick, fleshy and red. Leaves simple, elliptical and opposite. They are sessile, growing around the stem. Flowers very small, pale blue.

Other notes: Well browsed by game. Abundant in this one place.