

Kohautia caespitosa subsp.
brachyloba
Little night flower

Family: Rubiaceae - coffee family



Collection Number: 87

Description: A small, slim, erect herb, hidden amongst grasses it is fairly inconspicuous. Flowers are small, white and have four petals. Petals are fused to form a long tube. Leaves grow mainly at the base of the plant, they are simple, long and linear. Seeds are in a small capsule like a cup. *Kohautia caespitosa* has a sweet, heady scent which is only apparent in the evenings, once the sun has gone down. It is remarkably strong and can be likened to jasmine or vanilla

Habitat: On plains and stable dunes throughout the dune belt of the reserve. It is very common in grasslands of South Africa, Botswana and Namibia, in some areas it is considered a weed.

General information: *Kohautia* is named after Francis Kohaut, who collected in Senegal in 1822.



WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)

NAME: *Kobautia caespitosa*

Collection No: 87

Date: 17/06/01

Collector: Louise Clapham

Grid ref.: 2516 Aa

Locality: Dune belt, Die Diune farm, viewpoint above Picadilly.

Habitat: Widespread over dune slopes, valleys and plains.

Plant features: Small, erect annual herb. Flowers small, white, 4 petals fused to form a long tube. Leaves mostly basal, long and linear, margins entire, simple.

Other notes: Very strong, sweet scent in evening.

INRI - Collection Data Form

Collector: No. 87 Date: 17.06.2001
 Collector: Louise Clapham GPS
 Locality (please describe property, not just grid/gps): Dune belt, Die Duine farm, viewpoint above Picadilly Circus. Grid 2516 Aa
 Aspect: Slope gentle Exposure: full sun Photo no's.
 Voucher for:

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT Please give as much information as possible

Species: *Raukahaia caespitosa* Perennial/Annual

Habit (eg: dwarf shrub): Small erect herb.

Height: ± 20 cm Occurrence (eg: common): Very common through dunes +

Flower/inflorescence (colour, shape, size, smell, texture): Small, white, four petals on plain
 Corolla a long tube, ovary inferior. Very strong, sweet scent in evening and night, like Jasmine or Vervain.

Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules): Simple, linear, long, margins entire, at bases of stems only.

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):

Fruits and seed (presence/absence, shape, colour, edibility and taste if edible, single or clustered, maturity): Seeds in a small capsule, (sepals) making 4 tiny spikes on the capsule.

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		
clam ✓	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

Date

Collected By date Accession

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