

# *Lophiocarpus polystachyus*

**Family:** Chenopodiaceae



**Collection Number:** 86

**Description:** A much-branched annual, erect herb, growing to about 40 cm. Leaves are blue-green, linear and slightly succulent. They are slightly rounded instead of flat and occur in dense bunches along the slender stems. The inflorescence is a long spike, the flowers are tiny, yellowish-green and globular. The fruit is a tiny black capsule.

**Habitat:** *Lophiocarpus polystachyus* occurs on the reserve in dry riverbeds and areas of calcareous soils. It is not found in the dune belt. It also occurs in Botswana and the Northern Cape.



**WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)**

**NAME:** *Lophiocarpus polystachyus*

**Collection No:** 86

**Date:** 17/06/01

**Collector :** Louise Clapham

**Grid ref.:** 2515 Bd

**Locality:** Aandster farm. Dry riverbed behind Gorrasis mountains

**Habitat:** In the dry riverbed, in course river sand.

**Plant features:** Annual herb. Inflorescence a long, slender spike of tiny greenish-yellow flowers. Leaves linear and clustered, succulent, blue-green.



INBRI - Collection Data Form

Collectors No. 86 Date 17.06.2001  
 Collector/s Louise Clapham GPS  
 Locality (please describe properly, not just grid/gps) In the  
river bed behind Carrasie mts, on Grid  
Acadster Altitude  
 Aspect Slope level Exposure full sun Photo no's  
 Voucher for

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT Please give as much information as possible

Species Lophiocarpus polystachyus?  Perennial/Annual  
 Habit (eg: dwarf shrub) Dwarf shrub  
 Height ±40-50 cm Occurrence (eg: common) Uncommon  
 Flower/Inflorescence (colour, shape, size, smell, texture) Inflorescence a spike. Flower  
tiny, green, globular

Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules) Simple fasciated,  
Linear, margin entire, slightly rounded not flat.  
Succulent, blue/green.

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) Light bright  
green stems, smooth, woody

Fruits and seed (presence/absence, shape, colour, edibility and taste if edible, single or clustered,  
 maturity) Seeds a tiny round black 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 ✓	sandy ✓		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
scree/slope	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/ditch/gulley	karoo		mica schist		
depression/pan			quartzite		
sam			other		
dry bed of river/stream ✓					
floodplain					
estuary/lagoon					
marsh/swamp/ wetland					
river/stream					

FOR HERBARIUM USE ONLY

Date: .....

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

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



