

# *Ptycholobium biflorum* subsp. *biflorum*

**Family:** Fabaceae



**Collection Number:** 50

**Description:** A perennial herb, woody and reaching 30 cm in height. Long, thin linear leaves which have a covering of fine grey hairs. Flowers usually grow in pairs, from the axils of the leaves, they are yellow with violet at the tips of the wings. The fruit is very distinctive. It is a flattish pod, light green when young and maturing to a pinkish colour. Pods are characteristically contorted.

**Habitat:** *Ptycholobium biflorum* grows in sandy areas but not in the dune belt. It particularly favours calcrete outcrops and is found in the Northern Cape and the Kalahari.



**WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)**

**NAME:** *Ptycholobium biflorum* var *biflorum*

**Collection No:** 50

**Date:** 22/07/01

**Collector:** Louise Clapham

**Grid ref.:** 2516 Ac

**Locality:** Stellarine farm, between DDR & horseshoe, near large sociable weavers' nest.

**Habitat:** Valley between dunes and Gorrasis mountains. Rocky, level.

**Plant features:** Perennial herb, up to 30 cm tall. Leaves simple, linear/lanceolate, slightly waxy. Seed pods characteristically contorted, pale green when fresh, pinkish as they mature.

**Other notes:** Common locally.

INRI - Collection Data Form

Collectors No. 50 Date 22.07.2001  
 Collector/s Louise Clapham GPS S  
 Locality (please describe properly, not just grid/gps) Stellaria E  
farm, between D.D.R. + horse shoe, nr. large Grid 2516 Ae  
possible weavers nest Altitude   
 Aspect Slope level Exposure full sun Photo no's   
 Voucher for

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT Please give as much information as possible

Species Ptychaloabium biflorum? Perennial/Annual   
 Habit (eg: dwarf shrub) Dwarf shrub, woody  
 Height  $\pm$  30 cm Occurrence (eg: common) Un common + only localized  
 Flower/Inflorescence (colour, shape, size, smell, texture)

Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules)

Simple, entire, linear-lanceolate, slightly waxy

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)

Woody stem, whitish grey, branching just above ground, waxy covering, branches horizontal + vertical, making shrub rounded.

Fruits and seed (presence/absence, shape, colour, edibility and taste if edible, single or clustered maturity)

Seed pods pale green when fresh, characteristically curled, pinkish in colour before completely drying out.

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
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		
rain	thornbush savanna		dolomite		
plateau	forest		granite		
valley ✓	grasstand		lime		
drainage/ditch/gulley	karoo		mica schist		
depression/pan			quartzite		
dam			other		
dry bed of river/stream					
lowland plain					
estuary/lagoon					
marsh/swamp/ wetland					
river/stream					

HERBARIUM USE ONLY

By ..... date ..... Accession .....

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