

# *Zygophyllum simplex*

**Family:** Zygophyllaceae



**Collection Number:** 94

**Description:** A prostrate succulent creeper. Flowers are bright yellow, very small, with 5 petals. Leaves are a light, bright green. They are simple, linear and cylindrical, storing a lot of water. Stems radiate from a central tap root, spreading out flat along the ground.

**Habitat:** *Zygophyllum simplex* grows on plains, in shallow soil, and is most abundant growing on calcrete. It is very common on the plains of Gorrasis and Aandster.

Pokterpflanze, brakkie. An annual. It is yellow in colour when growing on brackish soils.



**WOLWEDANS HERBARIUM (NRNR)**

**NAME:** *Zygophyllum simplex*

**Collection No:** 94

**Date:** 20/06/01

**Collector:** Louise Clapham

**Grid ref.:** 2515 Bd

**Locality:** Aandster/Gorrasis border, approx 10 km from picnic spot.

**Habitat:** Open, flat plains. Most abundant on calcrete, grows in very shallow soil.

**Plant features** A succulent creeper. Flowers bright yellow, very small, 5 petals. Leaves simple, linear, succulent, rubbery and rounded, bright green. Stems radiating from central tap root.



INBRI - Collection Data Form

Collectors No. 94 Date 20.06.2001  
 Collector/s Louise Clapham GPS.....  
 Locality (please describe properly, not just grid/gps) Aardster /  
Garrasin border ± 10 km from picnic spot. Grid 25153d  
 Altitude.....  
 Aspect Slope level Exposure full sun Photo no's.....  
 Voucher for.....

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT *Please give as much information as possible*

Species Zygophyllum simplex Perennial/Annual

Habit (eg: dwarf shrub) Succulent creeper

Height ± 10 cm Occurrence(eg common) Very abundant

Flower/Inflorescence(colour, shape, size, smell, texture) Very small, bright yellow,  
5 petals.

Leaves (simple/compound, margin, shape, colour, texture, stipules)  
Simple, succulent, rubbery + rounded.

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 spreading radially across ground from a tap root.

Fruits and seed (presence/absence, shape, colour, edibility and taste if edible, single or clustered, maturity) Not yet

Roots/Underground organs (shape, texture, colour, size) Single tap root -  
whitish

Other (eg: uses, ecology).....

Indigenous names and languages.....

Habitat		Substrate	Soil type	Moisture	Biotic effect
cliff face	riverbank/ streambank	soil ✓	sand ✓ <i>fine</i>		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	mud/log	disturbed - other
ridge	shrubland open/closed		salt/brack		other
rocky outcrop	woodland open/closed		gravel ✓		<i>Most abundant when growing on calcrete + very thin soil layer.</i>
drain ✓	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

D. ....

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

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