

Ziziphus mucronata Blinkblaar-wag-'n-bietjie



Phylum: Tracheophyta

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Estimated genome size: 1.5 Billion DNA base pairs

Organism size: 3-10 m

Distribution:

The Blinkblaar-wag-'n-bietjie also known as the buffalo thorn is found throughout the summer rainfall regions of sub-Saharan Africa. It thrives in temperate and tropical climates, particularly in areas with thorny vegetation. This versatile tree occupies diverse habitats and its presence often indicates underground water sources.

Importance:

Buffalo thorn's flowers, leaves and berries are used as food sources by bees, various bird species, and wild and domestic animals. Humans have used the berries to make porridge, coffee-substitute and beer. The different tissues are important to treat a range of medical conditions such as pain, respiratory issues, skin infections and snake bites in East Africa. It also plays an important role in cultural activities such as burial rites and the wood is very useful as a timber source.

PromethION Sequencing Report:

Output: 82.39 Gigabases

Approximate N50: 5.37 kilobases

Draft Genome Assembly Statistics:

Genome length: 310.61 Mb

BUSCO completeness score (single and duplicated genes): 99%

Sample Contributor contact details

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