

Afrohybanthus enneaspermus (L.) Flicker

Family:
Violaceae

Flicker, B.J. & Ballard, H.E. (2015) *Phytotaxa* 230(1): 47-48.

Common name:
Spade Flower

Stem

Perennial herbs up to 60 cm tall with erect stems; stems longitudinally ribbed and clothed in scabrid hairs.

Leaves

Leaf blades 16-60 x 2 x 3-9 mm, petioles absent or up to 1 mm long. Leaf blade clothed in short erect hairs, side veins obscure, margin strongly inrolled (revolute). Stipules 0.75-2.5 mm long, with a few hairs at the base.

Flowers

Peduncles about 4 mm long. Pedicels 2-7 mm long, thin. Sepals lanceolate, 2.5-3 mm long, keeled, glabrous with only a few hairs at base or keel densely hairy. Petals variable; two petals cream to green, ca. 2.5 x 1 mm; two petals ca. 4 x 1.25 mm, cream to green with a pink to orange apex; one petal larger, spathulate, 8-10 x 4-5 mm, orange-pink, with a short (0.5-0.7 mm long) saccate spur. Anthers ca. 0.75 mm long, filaments about 1 mm long, anterior filaments with penicellate nectaries. Pollen cream. Some staminal filaments have dorsal, plumed appendages. Anthers with terminal appendages either a filament or a flap???. Ovary about 1 mm diam. Style about 1-1.25 mm long.

Fruit

Capsule valves glabrous. Seed with many parallel longitudinal ridges, apex truncate.

Seedlings

Features not available.

Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in WA, NT, CYP, NEQ, CEQ and southwards as far as north eastern New South Wales. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1270 m. Grows in open places in rainforest, Eucalypt forest, various types of woodland, heathland, shrubland, wooded grassland and on beach dunes. Also from Africa, India, Malesia and New Guinea.

Synonyms

Viola enneasperma L., *Species Plantarum* Edn. 1 2: 937(1753), Type: Sri Lanka, Hermann s.n. in Vol. 1, p. 19 of Hb. Hermann (lectotype BM!). *Hybanthus enneaspermus* (L.) F.Muell., *Fragmenta Phytographiae Australiae* 10(83): 81 (1876).

RFK Code

4103



Flower. © G. Sankowsky



Flowers and fruit. © G. Sankowsky



Dehiscent fruit. © G. Sankowsky



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