

Oberholzeria FABACEAE

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Oberholzeria Swanepoel & al. (PLoS One 10(3: e0122080): 11–12, 2015). **Type:** *Oberholzeria etendekaensis* Swanepoel & al. – **Papilionoideae** – **unplaced** – **Distr:** NW Namibia. **Etym:** For Johanna (“Hannelie”) Allettha Oberholzer (*1965), wife of the Namibian botanist Wessel Swanepoel who described the taxon.

Erect, single-stemmed, biennial or short-lived perennial succulent shrublets to 1 m tall and 1.2 m \varnothing , glabrous; presence of nitrogen-fixing bacterial nodules on the **R** unknown; stem and **Br** fleshy with woody remains, lower branches deciduous, leaving prominent crescent-shaped scars; **L** spirally arranged, petiole and petiolules fleshy, lamina pinnately 3-foliolate, leaflets often patent and erect, ovate, rarely suborbicular, fleshy, glabrous, green or glaucous with a white bloom, 1–2.5 \times 0.9–2.2 cm, margin entire; stipules paired, linear-lanceolate or linear-triangular, 2–2.4 mm long, fleshy; **Inf** leaf-opposed, or terminal on young branches and branchlets, racemose, 35- to 65-flowered, axis 25–50 mm; peduncle 9–17 mm; **Fl** zygomorphic, subtended by a lanceolate fleshy caducous **Bra** 2.5–3 \times 0.7–0.9 mm, bracteoles absent; **Ped** 10–12 mm; **Cal** dorsiventrally flattened, with 5 triangular

lobes that are longer than the tube; **Pet** white with yellow-green venation and paired large dark brown spots towards the basal margins, standard **Pet** narrowly obovate, retuse, 6.2–7.5 \times 2.9–3.2 mm, reflexed, lamina folded medially towards the apex, basal part fleshy, claw broad, indistinct and cucullate, wings broadly falcate, lamina 7.1–7.5 \times 3.1–3.5 mm, longer than the keel, auriculate at the base with 5 columns of 3–12 crescent-shaped minute intercostal pockets, claw short but distinct, \pm 0.6 mm long, keel rostrate, lamina 5.7–5.9 \times 2.6 mm, apex yellow to brown, claw short but distinct, 0.7–1 mm long; **St** monadelphous, fused into a sheath that is closed above; **Anth** dimorphic, 5 long and basifixed, narrowly ovate, alternating with 5 short and dorsifixed; **Ov** glabrous; **Fr** obovate-clavate, \pm 2.3 \times 1.4 \times 0.6 cm, laterally flattened, 1-seeded, green, khaki-coloured when dry, valves thin and papery, indehiscent; **Se** asymmetrically obovate, laterally compressed, faintly verrucose, khaki-coloured or khaki-green, hilum not fleshy, cream-coloured.

This recently described monotypic genus has been found to be sister to tribe *Genisteeae* or to the combined clade of tribes *Genisteeae* + *Crotalarieae* in a molecular analysis. The succulent habit is unique within these clades. *Oberholzeria* is regarded as a taxonomically isolated relictual species.

O. etendekaensis Swanepoel & al. (PLoS One 10(3: e0122080): 12, figs. 5 and 6 (pp. 8–9),

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Fig. 1 *Oberholzeria etendekaensis* (locus classicus). (Copyright: W. Swanepoel)

2015). **Type:** Namibia, Kunene Region (Swanepoel 316 [WIND, PRE]). – **Distr:** NW Namibia (Kunene: Kaokoveld: Great Escarpment of the Etendeka Mts.); S-facing ravines on stony soil and screes, 850–950 m; known from a single population only. – Figs. 1 and 2.

Description as for the genus.



Fig. 2 *Oberholzeria etendekaensis* (same data for Fig. 1). (Copyright: W. Swanepoel)