**Supplementary Table 7** DNA barcode results (GenBank) for plant reference samples.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sample no. | Morphological identification | *matK* GenBank closest match  | *matK* GenBank match % | *rbcL* GenBank closest match | *rbcL* GenBank match % | ITS2 GenBank closest match | ITS2 GenBank match % |
| T01 | *Sclerolaena tricuspis* | *Camphorosma monspeliaca* | 97.24 | *Sclerolaena obliquicuspis* | 100 | *Bassia eriophora* | 93.18 |
| T02 | *Acacia microcarpa* |  | n/a | *Inga alba* | 100 |  |  |
| T03 | *Maireana pyramidata* | *Maireana sedifolia* | 99.74 | Could not identify to genus |  | *Bassia eriophora* | 94.53 |
| T04 | *Solanum esuriale* | *Solanum dioicum* | 99.64 | Could not identify to genus |  | *Solanum nienkui* | 84.47 |
| T05 | *Heterodendrum oleifolium (= Alectryon oleifolius)* | *Alectryon* sp. (2 species) | 99.64 | *Litchi chinensis* | 99.19 |  |  |
| T06 | *Maireana pentatropis* |  | n/a |  | n/a |  |  |
| T07 | *Eremophila sturtii* | *Myoporium* sp. (2 species) | 98.89 | *Myoporum* sp. (3 species) | 99.6 | *Myoporum acuminatum* | 91.62 |
| T08 | *Maireana sedifolia* | *Maireana sedifolia* | 99.87 | Could not identify to genus |  | *Bassia eriophora* | 94.75 |
| T09 | *Enneapogon avenaceus* | *Enneapogon glaber* | 99.88 | Could not identify to genus |  | *Enneapogon desrauxii* | 98.02 |
| T10 | *Sclerolaena* sp. | *Camphorosma monspeliaca* | 97.24 | Could not identify to genus |  | *Bassia eriophora* | 94.99 |
| T11 | *Atriplex vesicaria* | *Atripex deserticola* | 98.68 | *Atriplex* sp. (3 sp) | 100 | *Atriplex* sp. | 96.38 |
| T12 | *Acacia victoriae* | *Acacia victoriae* | 99.76 | Could not identify to genus |  | *Bassia eriophora* | 94.53 |
| T13 | *Paspalidium constrictum* | *Setaria punctata* | 99.5 | Could not identify to genus |  | *Brachiara fragrans* | 92.64 |
| T14 | *Lysiana exocarpi* |  | n/a |  | n/a | *Alectryon oleifolius* | 93.81 |
| T15 | *Sida intricata* |  | n/a |  | n/a |  |  |
| T16 | *Aristida contorta* | *Aristida vagans* | 99.87 | *Aristida* sp. (4 species) | 100 |  |  |
| T17 | *Enchylaena tomentosa* | *Camphorosma monspeliaca* | 97.36 | Could not identify to genus |  |  |  |
| T18 | *Carrichtera annua* | *Vella* sp. (2 species) | 98.53 | *Carrichtera annua* | 100 |  |  |
| T19 | *Austrostipa* sp. | Could not identify to genus |  | Could not identify to genus |  | *Austrostipa nitida* | 98.48 |
| T20 | *Sclerolaena paradoxa* | *Camphorosma monspeliaca* | 97 | Could not identify to genus |  | *Bassia eriophora* | 95.22 |
| T21 | *Erodium* sp. |  | n/a |  | n/a |  |  |
| T22 | *Medicago* sp. |  | n/a |  | n/a | *Medicago* sp. (2 species) | 99.3 |
| T23 | *Ptilotus* sp. |  | n/a |  | n/a |  |  |
| T24 | *Atriplex holocarpa* |  | n/a | *Atriplex* sp .(3 species) | 100 | *Atriplex littoralis* | 96.36 |