**Sida hackettiana** W.Fitzg.

**Family:**
*Malvaceae*


**Common name:**
Golden Sida; Side, spiked; Sida, Golden; Spiked Sida

**Stem**
Usually grows as a herb sometimes attaining the dimensions of a small shrub about 1 m tall.

**Leaves**
Leaf blades about 4.7-6.6 x 1.4-2 cm, marginal teeth not very obvious. Petioles about 7-15 mm long. Stipules filiform, about 3-5 mm long. Both the upper and lower leaf blade surfaces densely clothed in matted stellate hairs.

**Flowers**
Inflorescence consists of numerous panicles or spikes of fascicles of 2-4 flowered clusters of flowers. Flowers about 3-4 mm diam. Calyx lobes about 1.5 mm long. The outer surface of the calyx densely clothed in pale brown hairs. Stamens 10, fused to form a staminal column enclosing the ovary. Ovary consisting of 5 or 6 clearly defined carpels. Styles 5 or 6 fused for most of their length. Stigmas 5 or 6. Ovules on per locule.

**Fruit**
Calyx clothed in stellate hairs, persistent, enveloping the fruit. Fruit consists of 5 nutlets, each nutlet about 2 mm long. Seeds slightly smaller than the nutlets.

**Seedlings**
At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade ovate, apex acute to obtuse, base rounded. Lower surface of the leaf blade clothed in pale stellate hairs, upper surface sparsely clothed in stellate hairs. Stipules linear, 5-8 mm long, clothed in stellate hairs. Terminal bud, stems and petioles densely clothed in stellate hairs. Seed germination time 24 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**
Occurs in WA, NT, NEO, CEQ and southwards as far as southern inland New South Wales. Altitudinal range in northern Australia from near sea level to 800 m. Often a weed of agricultural land, also found in open forest, vine thicket, disturbed monsoon forest and rain forest margins. Recent taxonomic studies indicate that our species concept of *S. subspicata* will have to be reappraised when the revisionary work is published.

**Synonyms**

**RFK Code**
3535
10th leaf stage. © CSIRO

Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO