

# Kew

PLANTS PEOPLE  
POSSIBILITIES



This report was generated from the SEPASAL database ([www.kew.org/ceb/sepasal](http://www.kew.org/ceb/sepasal)) in August 2007. This database is freely available to members of the public.

SEPASAL is a database and enquiry service about useful "wild" and semi-domesticated plants of tropical and subtropical drylands, developed and maintained at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. "Useful" includes plants which humans eat, use as medicine, feed to animals, make things from, use as fuel, and many other uses.

Since 2004, there has been a Namibian SEPASAL team, based at the National Botanical Research Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture which has been updating the information on Namibian species from Namibian and southern African literature and unpublished sources. By August 2007, over 700 Namibian species had been updated.

Work on updating species information, and adding new species to the database, is ongoing. It may be worth visiting the web site and querying the database to obtain the latest information for this species.

## Internet SEPASAL

New query

Edit query

View query results

 *Display help*In names list include:  synonyms  vernacular names and display: All  names per page*Your query found 29 taxa***Cyperus laevigatus L.**

Family: CYPERACEAE

**Synonyms**

Juncellus laevigatus (L.) C.B.Clarke

**Vernacular names**

Khukh (Namibia) xautsixaubes [5083]

Otjiherero (Namibia) ondbora [5083] [5091]

**Partial distribution**

Plant origin	Continent	Region	Botanical country
Native	Africa	South Tropical Africa	Mozambique [5480], Zambia [5481], Zimbabwe [5419]
		Southern Africa	Botswana [5104] [5700], Cape Province [5104], Namibia [5104] [5149], Natal [5104], Orange Free State [5104], Swaziland [5104] [5452], Transvaal [5104]
Status Unknown	Africa	Northeast Tropical Africa West Tropical Africa	Sudan Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal
	Australasia	Australia	New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia

ISO countries: South Africa [5104]

**Descriptors****Category**

DESCRIPTION

CLIMATE

**Descriptors and states**

Herb [5104]; Rhizomatous [5123]; Perennial [5104]; Plant Height 0.15-0.6 m [5104]

Marked Dry Season [5123]; Subtropical, Hot and Arid [5104]

SOILS	Sometimes Waterlogged (frequency unknown); Shallow [5123]; Saline [5123]; Gravels/Stony [5123]; Alluvial Soils [5123]; Sandy [5123]; Seasonally Waterlogged [5123]; Silts [5123]; Peat/Organic Substrates [5123]
HABITAT	Crevices/Fissures/Fractures [5123]; Desert [5123]; Watercourses [5123]; Estuaries [5123]; Floodplains [5123]; Vlei/Dambo/Seasonally Flooded Grassland [5123]; Pans [5123]; Altitude 1-1435 m a.s.l. [5104]
PRODUCTION AND VALUE	Wild Plants Utilised [5091] [5123]
FURTHER DATA SOURCES	Additional References [5629]; Databases [5123]; Grid Map [5123] [6607]

## Uses

Major use	Use group	Specific uses
ANIMAL FOOD	'Roots' Aerial Parts	rhizomes, primates, forage [2514] stems, bovines, grazing; unspecified aerial parts, mammals, grazing [5091]; unspecified aerial parts, game mammals, grazing [5123]
ENVIRONMENTAL USES	Unspecified Environmental Uses	saline soils
GENE SOURCES		waterlogging tolerance [5123]; salt tolerance [5123]

## Picture

None recorded

## Notes

## DISTRIBUTION

*Mozambique:*

Inhambane Province [5480] .

*South Africa:*

Limpopo, Northwest, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Free State, KwaZulu/Natal, Northern Cape, Western Cape and Eastern Cape Provinces [5104] .

## DESCRIPTION

*Height:*

0.15-0.6 m [5104] .

*Lifeform:*

Cyperoid, helophyte [5104] .

*Lifeform:*

Hydrophyte [5123] .

## ANIMAL FOOD - 'ROOTS'

*Rhizomes, primates, forage:*

The stem base is eaten by baboon (Altmann & Altmann, 1970) [2514] .

## ANIMAL FOOD - AERIAL PARTS

*Unspecified aerial parts, game mammals, grazing:*

In Namibia it is grazed by oryx and other game mammals [5123] .

*Unspecified aerial parts, mammals, grazing:*

In Kaokoland, northern Namibia it is grazed by livestock [5091] .

## ALTITUDE

*Southern Africa:*  
1-1435 m [5104] .

## TOPOGRAPHY/SITES

*Namibia:*  
Salty floodplain, springs, small streams [5123] .

## SOILS

*Namibia:*  
Shallow soil on rocks, salty floodplains. Salinity varies from 2-15% [5123] .

## VEGETATION

*Namibia:*  
Rock desert, coastal desert and open herb wetland [5123] .

## CYTOLOGY

For the genus  $x = 5, 8, (6, 7, 9, 13)$  (high aneuploids, high polyploidy) [5150] .

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND DATASHEET PROGRESS

Updated for southern Africa by E. Irish, checked by C. Mannheimer; SEPASAL Namibia, National Botanical Research Institute, April 2007 .

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