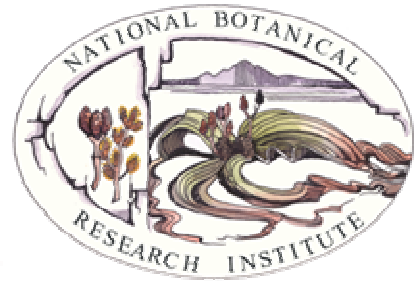


Kew

PLANTS PEOPLE
POSSIBILITIES



This report was generated from the SEPASAL database (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which has been updating the information on Namibian species from Namibian and southern African literature and unpublished sources.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 5 taxa***Ximenia caffra Sond. var. caffra [1362]**

Family: OLACACEAE

Synonyms

None recorded

Vernacular names

(Mozambique)	mat'zenguel [5480], mepidge [5480], n'pidgi [5480]
Afrikaans (Namibia)	suurpruim [1304]
English (Botswana)	large sourplum [5093]
English (Namibia)	Natal plum [1304], kaffir plum [1304], large sour plum [5092], wild plum [1304]
Kwanyama (Namibia)	oipeke [1304], oshimbyu [1304], oshipeke [1304]
Kwanyama (Namibia)	oimbyu [1304]
[plural]	
Punguvlei (Namibia)	n#gui [5111]
SeTswana (Botswana)	monkey plum [5093], moretologa [5093], moretologa-wa-kgomo [5093], moretonoga [5093], morokolo [5093], motsidi [5093], mwombe [5093], nswanja-ngombe [5093]
Vasekele (Namibia)	n#gui [5111]

Distribution

Plant origin	Continent	Region	Botanical country
Native	Africa	East Tropical Africa	Tanzania
		Northeast Tropical Africa	Ethiopia
		South Tropical Africa	Angola, Malawi, Mozambique [5480], Zambia [5481], Zimbabwe [5419]
		Southern Africa	Botswana [5093] [5104] [5700], Caprivi Strip [5121], Namibia [5104] [5121] [5149], Natal, Swaziland [5104] [5452], Transvaal [5104]
		West-Central Tropical Africa	Zaire

ISO countries: South Africa [5104]

Descriptors

Category	Descriptors and states
DESCRIPTION	Erect; Terrestrial; Shrub [5104] [5121]; Tree [5104] [5121]; Perennial [5104]; Thorny/Spiny - stems [5733]; Plant Height 1-7 m [5104]
SOILS	Deep [5111]; Sandy [5111] [5121]; Loamy Sands [5111]; Dry; Sandy Loams [5121]
HABITAT	Hillsides/Slopes [5121]; Dunes [5121]; Permanent Watercourses [5121]; Non-Permanent Watercourses [5121]; Plains [5121]; Altitude 152-1675 m a.s.l. [5104]
FURTHER DATA SOURCES	Botanical Illustration [5093]; Additional References [5123] [5327]; Grid Map [5093] [5121] [5123]
SEPASAL DATASHEET STATUS	Nomenclature Checked [2963]
CHEMICAL ANALYSES	Tannins - 'roots' [5092]

Uses

Major use	Use group	Specific uses
FOOD	Infructescences	fruits, raw [1304] [5111]; fruits, dessert fruits; potable water; fruits [5121] [5139]; fruit pulp [5111]; fruits, jams/jellies [5111]
ANIMAL FOOD	Aerial Parts	leaves, game mammals, browse [5121]
MATERIALS	Wood	'roots', carved wood
	Lipids	seeds, oils, lubricants; seeds, non-drying oils, lubricants; seeds, oils [5121]; seeds, oils, hair dyes [5111]; seeds, oils, hair conditioners [5111]; seed oil, cosmetics [1304]
MEDICINES	Unspecified Medicinal Disorders	leaves, humans; 'roots', humans [5121]; humans; seeds, humans [5121]
	Digestive System Disorders	roots, humans, intestine, diarrhoea [5092]; roots, humans, purgative [5092]
	Infections/Infestations	roots, humans, fever [5092]; roots, humans, syphilis [5092]; roots, humans, hookworm infection (Old World) [5092]
	Inflammation	leaves, humans, eyes, inflammation [5092]
	Injuries	seeds, humans, wounds, external applications [5111]

Picture

None recorded

Notes

NOMENCLATURE/TAXONOMY

See also the SEPASAL species account for *Ximenia caffra* Sond. and *Ximenia caffra* Sond. var. *natalensis* .

DISTRIBUTION

Botswana:

Occurs in the North, South West and South East Flora Zambesiaca geographical regions [5093] .

Mozambique:

Occurs in the Gaza, Manica, Maputo, Niassa, Sofala, Tete and Zambezia Provinces [5480] .

Namibia:

Uncommon in scattered localities in the northwest, fairly widespread and uncommon to common in the northeast,

and common in eastern Caprivi [5121] .

South Africa:

Central and northern parts of Limpopo Province [5082] .

Zambia:

Occurs in Northern, Eastern, Lusaka, Southern and Western Provinces [5481] .

Zimbabwe:

Occurs in all floristic regions [5419] .

DESCRIPTION

Armature:

Young branches and branchlets with sturdy, rigid spines [5733] .

Height:

1 - 7 m [5104] .

Leaf fall:

Usually some leaves, but with highest records of bare trees in September; leaf buds in August and September and young leaves October to December [5121] .

Lifeform:

In Namibia, usually a shrub in the 1 - 3 m height class, sometimes taller, occasionally a tree [5121] .

FOOD - INFRUCTESCENCES

Fruit pulp:

The fruit is put into cold water and the skin and kernel are removed by pressing them out. The resulting porridge is mixed with pound tubers of another (unidentified) species and then eaten [5111] .

Fruits, raw:

Eaten raw but first the skin with that part of the flesh which is sticking to it is removed due to its bitter taste. The flesh around the kernel is then sucked, the kernel itself is not eaten. The taste of the flesh is very sour, but refreshing, and has an almond-like scent [5111] .

Fruits, raw:

Ripe fruit eaten raw. Fruit never dried or preserved or used for beverages [1304] .

MATERIALS - LIPIDS

Cosmetics, seed oil:

Oil from seeds is expressed and mixed with red ochre for a cosmetic [1304] .

Oils, hair dyes, hair conditioners, seeds:

Roasted seeds are mashed in the mortar and the resulting oil applied to the hair. It colours the hair dark black and helps to straighten it [5111] .

Oils, seeds:

Seeds contain a viscous oil which is used in a variety of ways [5121] .

MEDICINES - DIGESTIVE SYSTEM DISORDERS

Roots, humans, intestine, diarrhoea:

In Tanzania the root is used as a remedy for diarrhoea, possibly because of its tannin content [5092] .

MEDICINES - INFECTIONS/INFESTATIONS

Roots, humans, fever:

In Tanzania the root is used as a remedy for fever, possibly because of its tannin content [5092] .

Roots, humans, hookworm infection (Old World):

Used as a cure for hookworm disease [5092] .

MEDICINES - INFLAMMATION

Leaves, humans, eyes:

The Zulus use a cold infusion of the leaf to treat inflammation of the eyes [5092] .

MEDICINES - INJURIES

Seeds, humans, wounds, external applications:

Roasted and pounded seeds are used for wounds. The powder is rubbed into the wound until it is completely healed [5111] .

ALTITUDE

Southern Africa:

152 - 1,675 m [5104] .

TOPOGRAPHY/SITES

Namibia:

Found in various habitats but mostly on plains, as well as along rivers and on dunes in the northeast, and hill slopes in the northwest; generally on sand or sandy loam [5121] .

FLOWERING/FRUITING/SEED SET

Flowering, Namibia:

Mainly October with single records most months [5121] .

Fruiting, Namibia:

Mainly November to February but recorded up to July [5121] .

CYTOLOGY

For the genus, $x = 12, 13$ [5150] .

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND DATASHEET PROGRESS

Nomenclature checked by Liana May, July 2002 .

Updated for southern Africa by A. Jarvis, checked by C. Mannheimer and M. Sinkela; SEPASAL Namibia, National Botanical Research Institute, September 2005 .

ADDITIONAL DATA SOURCES

See also the SEPASAL species account for *Ximenia caffra* Sond. and *Ximenia caffra* Sond. var. *natalensis* .

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