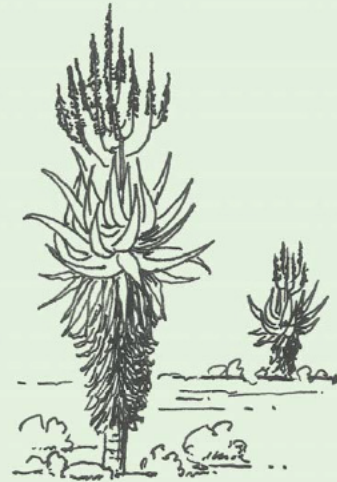


Aloe littoralis

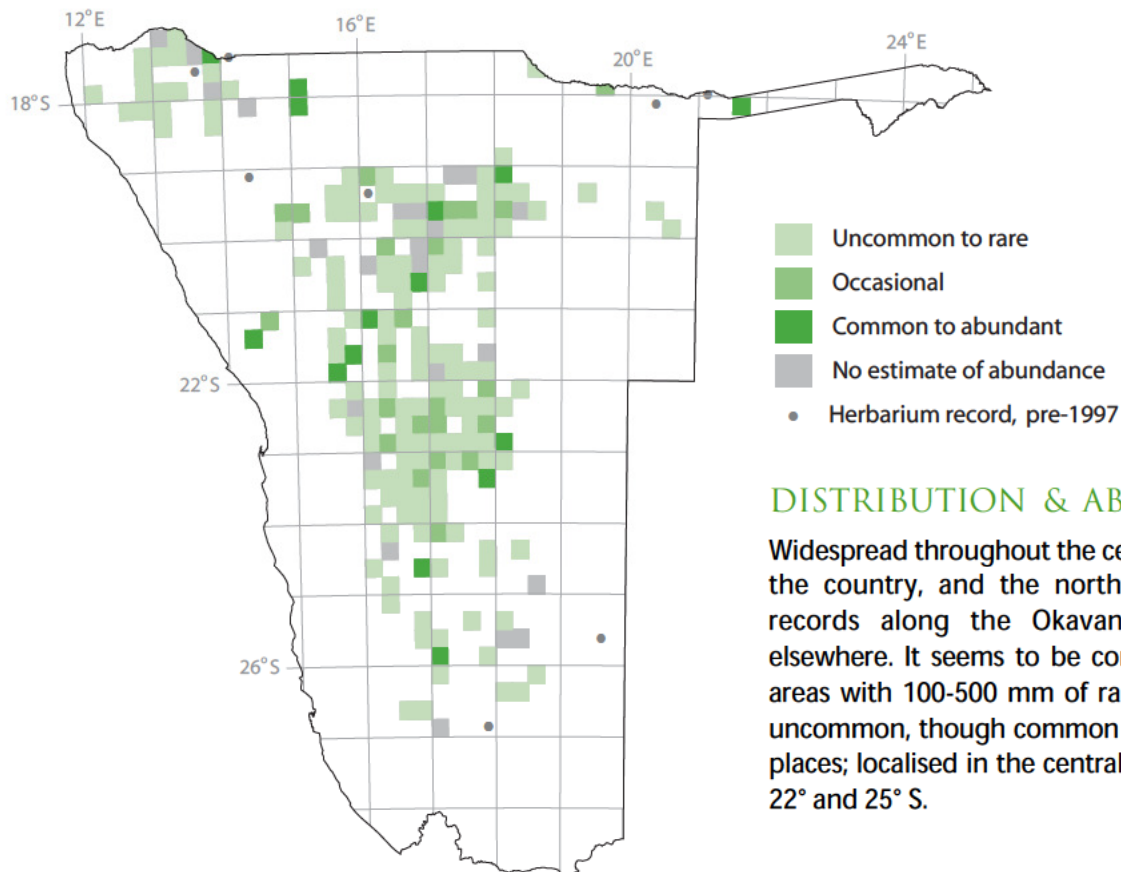
Windhoek Aloe

Bergaalwyn (A); otjindombo (H)

[483 records from 202 (19%) squares]



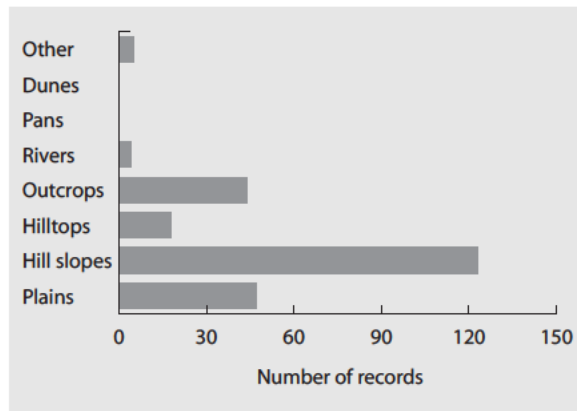
Single-stemmed. **STEM partly covered with old leaves and leaf remains.** LEAVES simple, succulent, in a large terminal rosette; lanceolate, broad at bases then tapering boat-like to a narrow tip, up to 0.7 m long and 30 mm thick; green to brown-green, **sometimes with small light blotches, especially when young;** margin with strong, brown teeth. INFLORESCENCE a branched, erect spray, up to 1.2 m long. FLOWERS **pale red to deep red with yellow tips**, tubular. FRUIT a capsule. SEEDS small, black, winged and papery.

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE**

Widespread throughout the central interior of the country, and the north-west; isolated records along the Okavango River and elsewhere. It seems to be confined to rocky areas with 100-500 mm of rainfall. Generally uncommon, though common to abundant in places; localised in the central areas between 22° and 25° S.

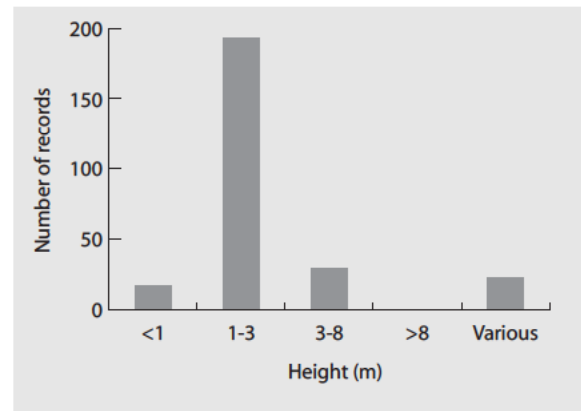
HABITAT

Found in a variety of habitats – most often on hillsides, but also on plains, rocky outcrops and hilltops. It was found on stony or rocky substrates, sometimes calcrete and only once on clay; never on sand.



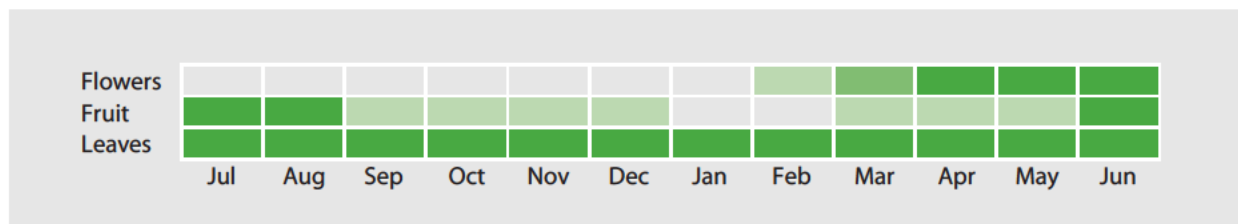
GROWTH FORM

Mostly a 'tree', 1–3 m high; occasionally 3–8 m high, north of 23° S.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS sometimes appearing in February, but mainly April to June, with single records in October and November. FRUIT mostly June until August. LEAVES are present all year.



GENERAL

Often in localised, dense stands. Susceptible to white scale and gall formation; the flowers are sometimes infested with insects. Baboons do great damage to the plants in periods of drought. In the National Botanic Garden, Windhoek, dassies (rock hyrax) climb up the plants to eat the leaves and flowers, often damaging the growth points. Of horticultural potential as it is drought resistant and grows easily from seed. Whole plants can be transplanted. Also called mopane aloe (GAR1, 1918DA).

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Potentially threatened by the pachycaul trade. Protected by the Nature Conservation Ordinance and listed in CITES Appendix II.