

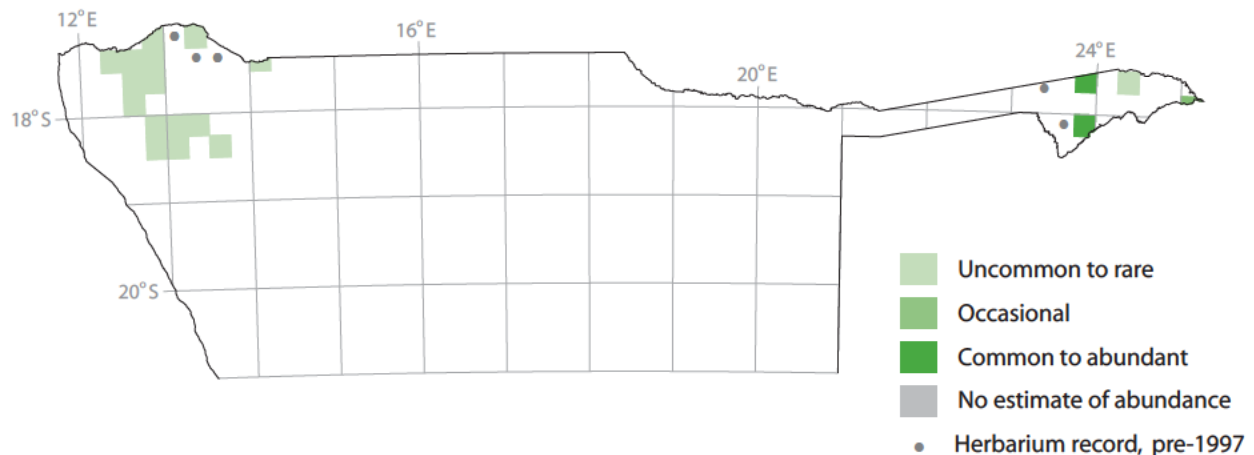
# *Boscia mossambicensis*

## Broad-leaved Shepherds-tree

[20 records from 20 (2%) squares]



Deciduous tree. BARK of **young branchlets yellow-green**. LEAVES simple, spirally arranged or clustered on dwarf shoots; **elliptic to broadly oblanceolate, up to three times longer than wide**; both surfaces **matt olive-green and hairless**, midrib prominent; apex often with a **spiny tip**. INFLORESCENCE an elongate cluster (raceme), up to 140 mm long. FLOWERS green-yellow, petals absent. FRUIT **spherical, up to 15 mm in diameter**.



### DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Disjunct, uncommon to rare, with most records from the north-west, and three from eastern Caprivi. There are earlier, herbarium records from both areas, as well range extensions south of the Kunene River that were not confirmed by specimens.

### HABITAT

Plains, dry riverbeds and hill slopes.

### GROWTH FORM

Mostly a tree up to 8 m high, with one record of trees taller than 8 m.

### ANNUAL CYCLE

There were no TAP observations in the winter months. FLOWERS March, April and June. FRUIT October to April. LEAVES recorded all summer.

### CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.