

Caesalpinia rubra

Purple Caesalpinia

Auauroi (K)

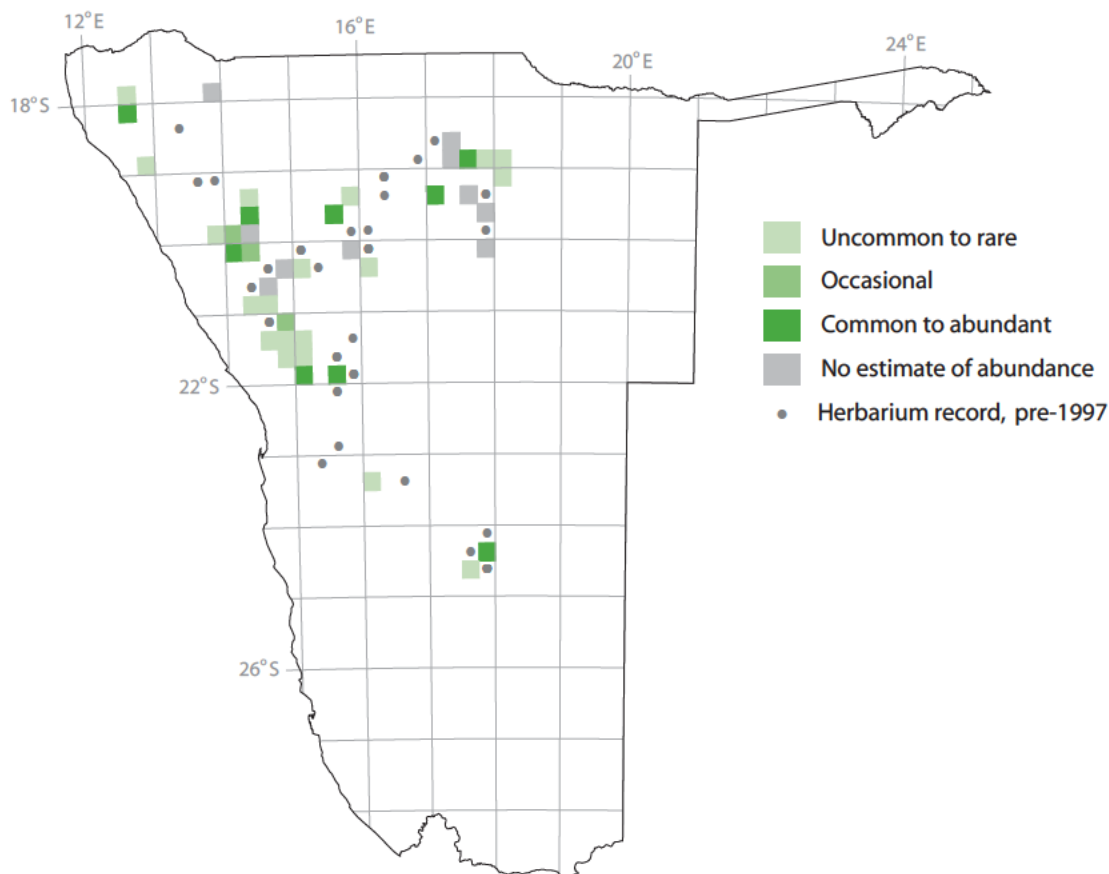
[68 records from 41 (4%) squares]



Semi-deciduous shrub. BRANCHLETS **red-brown to plum-coloured**. THORNS slightly curved, evenly distributed along stem, **slender, thin**. LEAVES twice compound, 45–60 mm long with many small oblong to obovate leaflets, dark green, glandular. FLOWERS **reddish-purple**, up to 15 mm long in terminal sprays. FRUIT inflated and sharply pointed, **beak-like**; brown to red, hairless, splitting open, mostly with two seeds.

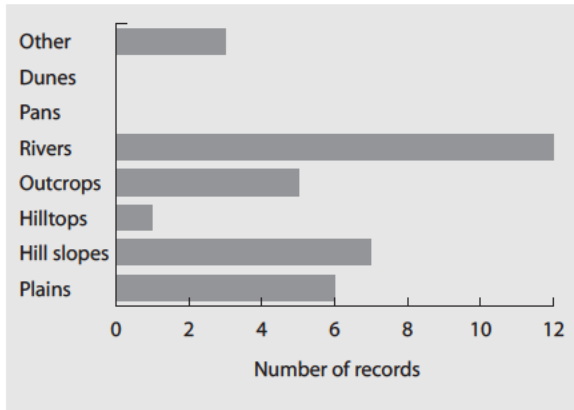
DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Uncommon to sometimes locally common in scattered localities, mainly along the north-western escarpment and in the Karstveld, but also from a small area in square 2417BD. There are many localities from which it was previously collected, but not recorded by the TAP.



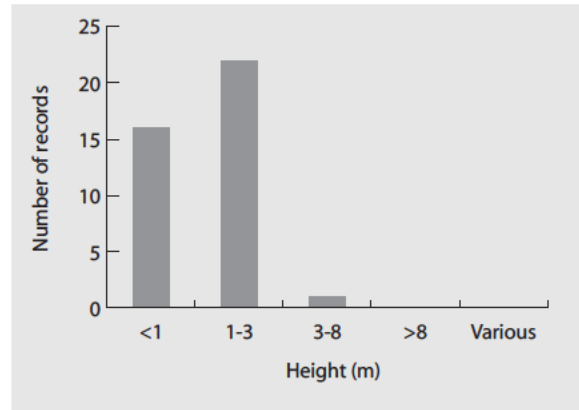
HABITAT

Various, but mainly along dry river courses.
Found on rocky substrates.



GROWTH FORM

A shrub in the 1–3-m height class, occasionally higher.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS noted in December and from February to May; rain-dependent. FRUIT March to May. LEAVES recorded during all months, bare plants in June and December.

GENERAL

Browsed by small stock and game; of horticultural potential due to its attractive flowers, drought resistance and cold tolerance.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

*Caesalpinia
pearsonii*

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[1 record]

A shrub around 1 m high. LEAVES trifoliolate. FLOWERS yellow. FRUIT a **strongly sickle-shaped to almost circular** pod; compressed, reddish-brown, downy, covered with curved thorns up to 6 mm long.



Endemic to the escarpment of Namibia; occurring on stony, sandy soils. Only one, uncertain TAP record from Mirabib (2315AD) in the central Namib. Earlier herbarium records from six widely scattered squares; only one specimen of 1 m, all the rest <1m high.