Combretum albopunctatum

Muramata

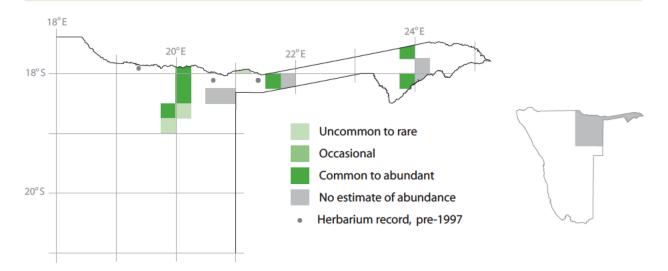
Silver-dot combretum (E); Okavangoboswilg (A); Okavango Buschweide (G); mufufu (T)

[19 records from 15 (1%) squares]



Shrub or tree with smooth, grey-brown bark. Leaves with successive pairs at right angles to each other; elliptic, up to 60 mm long; dark green above; olive-green below with scattered hairs and small, white scales, veins prominent. Flowers small, yellow. Fruit four-winged, ovoid to almost spherical, up to 20 mm in diameter; straw-coloured with a slight, red-purple tint.

It may be confused with *C. celastroides*, which has a more teat-like tip to the leaves and larger, yellowish scales on the underside of the leaf.



DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Common in scattered localities along the Okavango River and just south of it, as well as in eastern Caprivi. It has previously been recorded further west than it was during the TAP.

HABITAT

Found on sandy plains, sometimes river banks.

GROWTH FORM

A shrub or tree up to 8 m tall, seldom over 8 m. Sometimes scrambling. Occasionally thicket-forming.

ANNUAL CYCLE

Observations were only made in November, December and March to May. FLOWERS recorded in November and December. FRUIT November to June. Leaves were recorded in all the months of observation, with young leaves in November.

GENERAL

Used for fuel and to make 'knopkieries'.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Restricted, but apparently not threatened.