

# *Combretum celastroides*

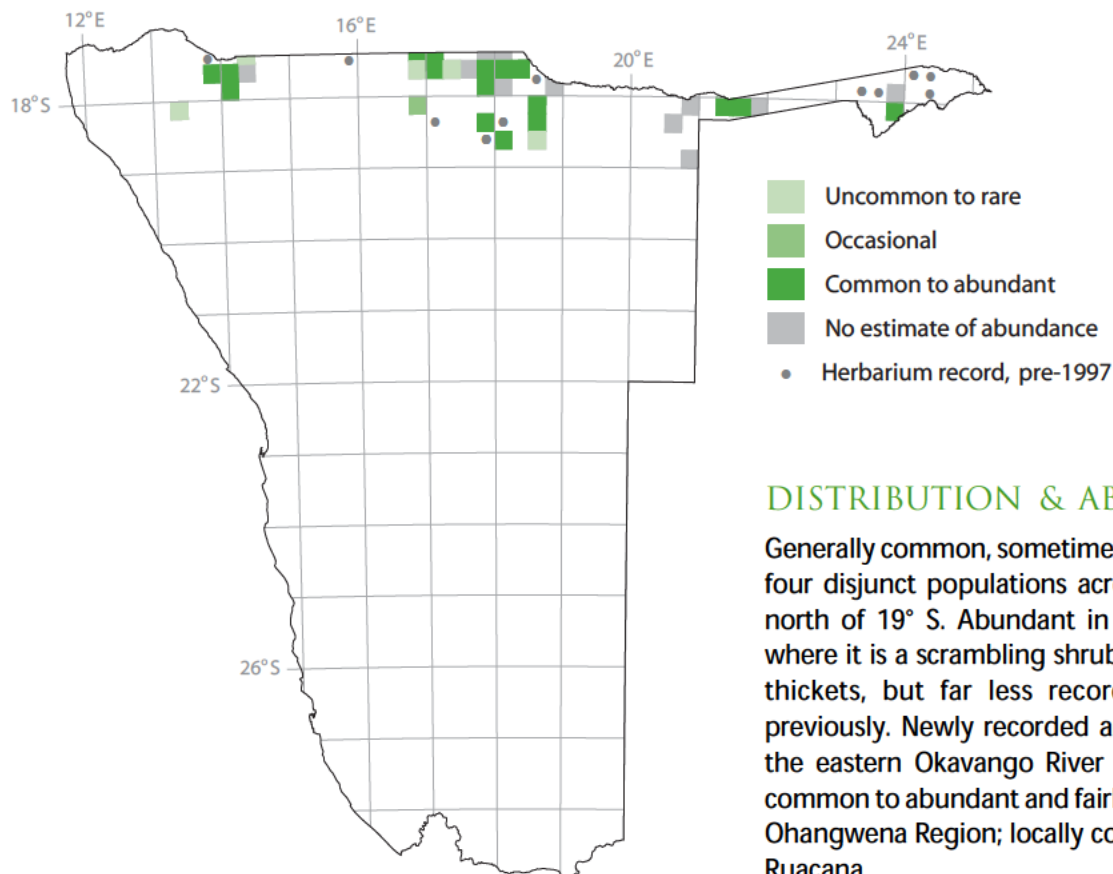
## Omunjere

Trailing combretum (E); rankboswilg (A); Savannenweide (G); musetela (L)

[36 records from 34 (3%) squares]



Shrub, **occasionally scrambling**. BRANCHLETS with dense, **rust scales** on young growth points; older branches grey with fine, **vertical cracks giving them a striated appearance**. LEAVES elliptic, up to 85 mm long; with sparse but **conspicuous, large, round scales**; **apex drawn-out and teat-like**. FLOWERS yellow to green-yellow. FRUIT four-winged, ovate with tapering base, 15–20 mm in diameter; yellow-green with dark red wings; style persistent, forming a peg.

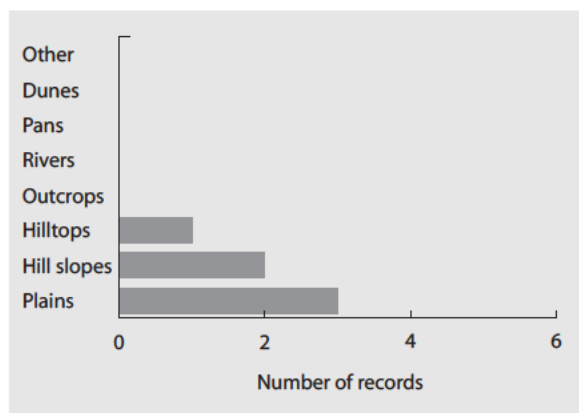


### DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Generally common, sometimes uncommon, in four disjunct populations across the country north of 19° S. Abundant in eastern Caprivi where it is a scrambling shrub forming dense thickets, but far less recorded here than previously. Newly recorded and common on the eastern Okavango River and just south; common to abundant and fairly widespread in Ohangwena Region; locally common south of Ruacana.

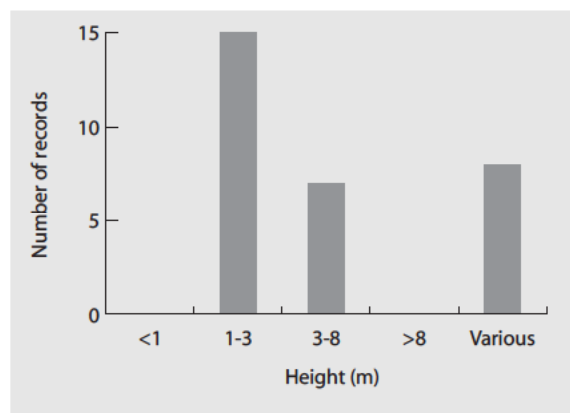
## HABITAT

Mainly found on plains, on deep Kalahari sand.



## GROWTH FORM

Mostly a shrub in the 1–3-m height class, sometimes over 3 m. Occasionally scrambling. Thicket-forming in places.



## ANNUAL CYCLE

Observations were mostly made in March and April, with one or two observations in May, June, December and January; records of flowers and fruit were combined with earlier records from the herbarium. FLOWERS recorded from December to May. FRUIT March to July. LEAVES present in all months of observation, with leaves turning colour in April and young leaves in May.

## CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

# *Combretum collinum*

## Variable Combretum

Mupupu (Rk, T); otjindanda (H); mutobo (L); omupupwaheke (O)

[543 records from 236 (22%) squares]

Shrub or tree, with a **rounded, drooping crown**. BARK grey to dark grey, occasionally flaking off in fibrous strips to expose a **reddish underbark**. LEAVES very **variable** in shape, up to 130 mm long; dark green to yellow-green above; petiole quite long and slender. FLOWERS tiny, cream-coloured to yellow. FRUIT four-winged, broadly ovate to spherical, up to 50 mm; yellow-rust to deep rust-red; wings yellow-brown to rust.

Flowers and fruit are conspicuous. There are three subspecies, which may be differentiated by the hairiness of the leaves and the fruit, thus it is not possible to identify the subspecies without pods. The most common one is subsp. *gazense*, and the majority of records for which the subspecies was not specified probably belong to this subspecies. The data for all three subspecies have been combined, unless stated otherwise.