

Combretum wattii

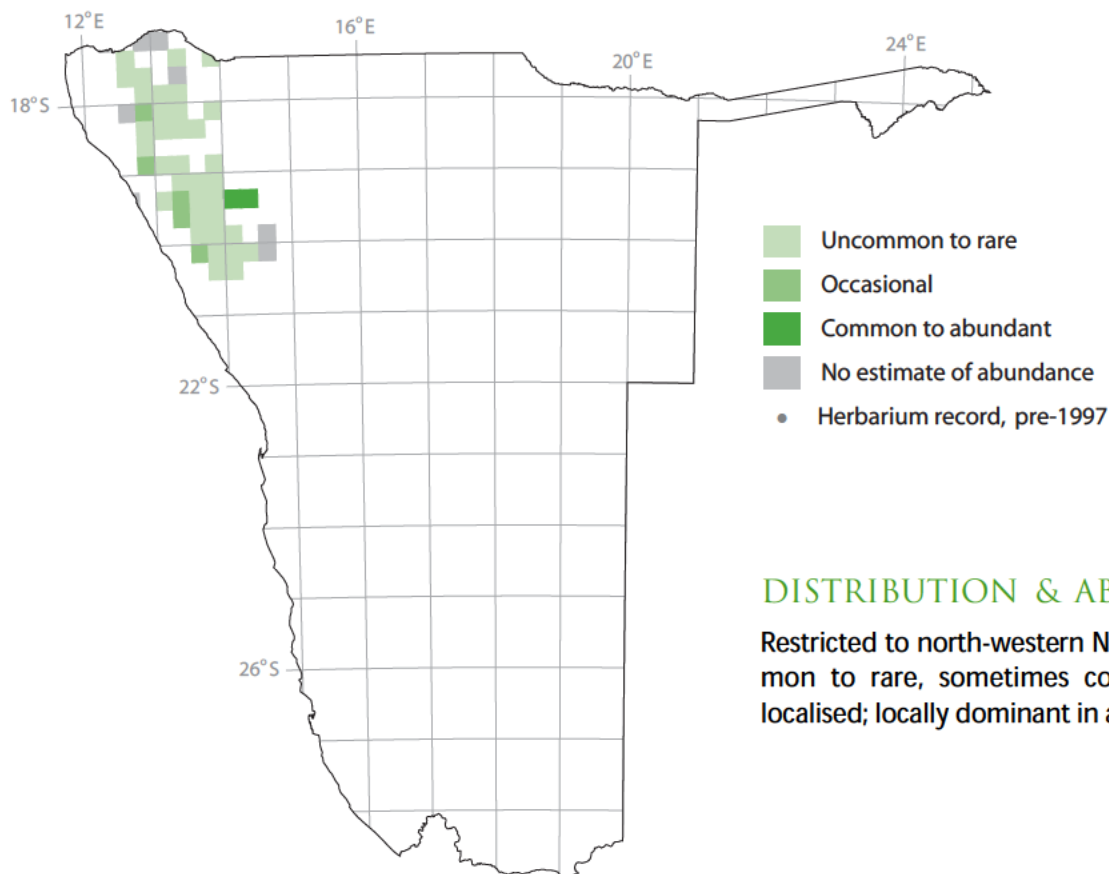
Kaoko Combretum

Waterboswilg (A); Rundblättriger Combretum (G); omutapati (H); #nabi (K); omupupu (O)

[115 records from 50 (5%) squares]



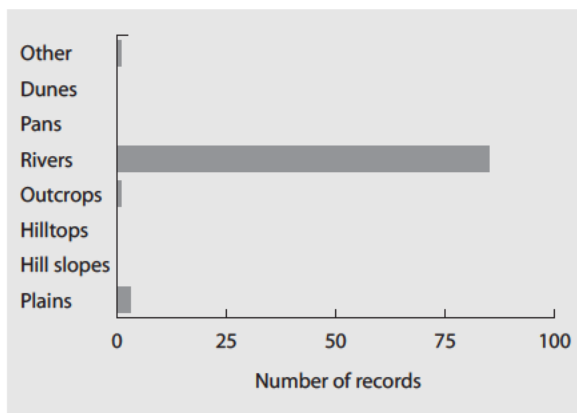
Untidy, dense shrub, usually greater in diameter than in height, sometimes climbing into or **leaning against other plants**. LEAVES simple, **almost circular**, 20–45 mm in diameter; **with silvery down**. FLOWERS **largest** of all the Namibian *Combretum* species, up to 25 mm long, with pale brown, velvety covering; **petals deep pink to red**; **filaments and style protruding up to 20 mm beyond petals**. FRUIT **four- or five-winged**; velvety, young fruit pink.

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE**

Restricted to north-western Namibia. Uncommon to rare, sometimes common; usually localised; locally dominant in a few places.

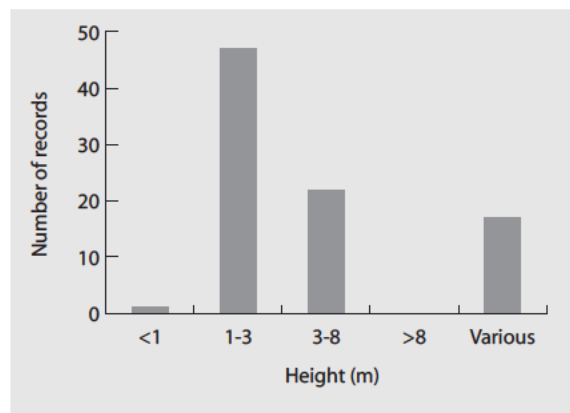
HABITAT

Mostly found in dry rivers and along river banks, occasionally on plains. On sandy or gravel substrates.



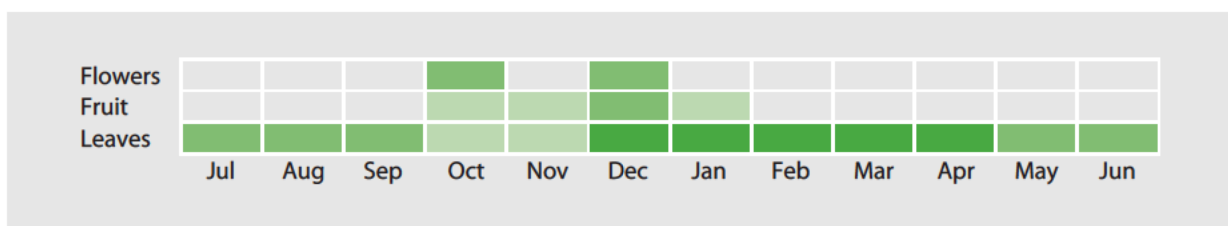
GROWTH FORM

Generally a shrub, mostly up to 3 m high. Can be a shrub or tree of over 3 m.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS recorded in December, with single records other months; recorded in October by herbarium. FRUIT October to January, with single records most months. LEAVES mostly December to April, with young leaves in December.



GENERAL

Leaves browsed by various game species, but a favourite food of giraffe. Wood used to make knobkieries.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

Combretum imberbe Continued from page 481:

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Although heavily utilised by people, regrowth is good and growth of young trees is vigorous. Because of its religious importance and many uses, it is protected locally; it is also formally protected by forestry legislation. There are many really old and beautiful specimens that warrant special protection as monuments.