

Dialium engleranum

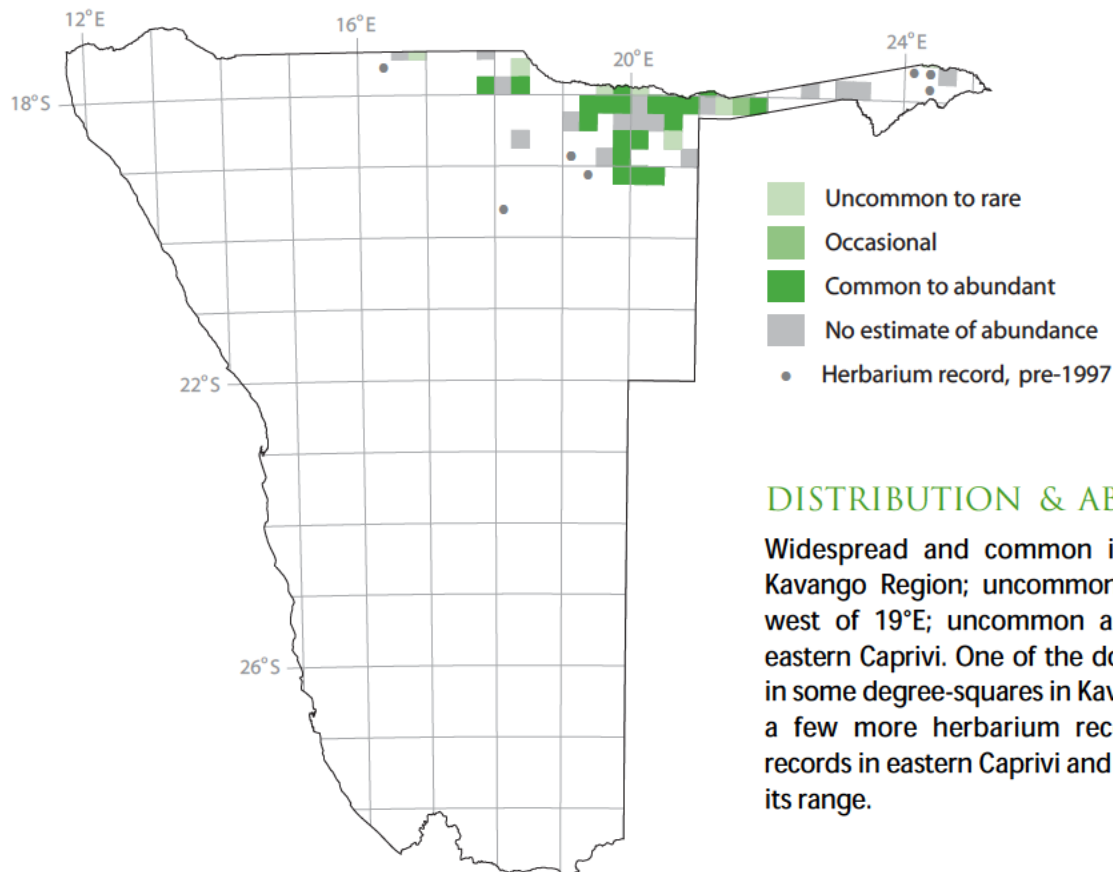
Nonsimba

Kalahari podberry (E); muhanane (H);
djau (K); ghut(h)imba (Rum, T)

[55 records from 43 (4%) squares]



Deciduous tree. BARK smooth to rough, pale to dark grey, peeling off in irregular fragments to expose dark brown underbark. LEAVES compound, up to 160 mm long; leaflets oblong-elliptic, leathery, dark green and shiny above, **pale green, downy below**; veins prominent. FLOWERS small, creamy-white, in loose, terminal sprays. FRUIT ovoid, c. 25 x 17 mm; velvety, dark brown, not splitting open. SEEDS salmon-brown to reddish-brown, with one to two seeds embedded in orange-red flesh.

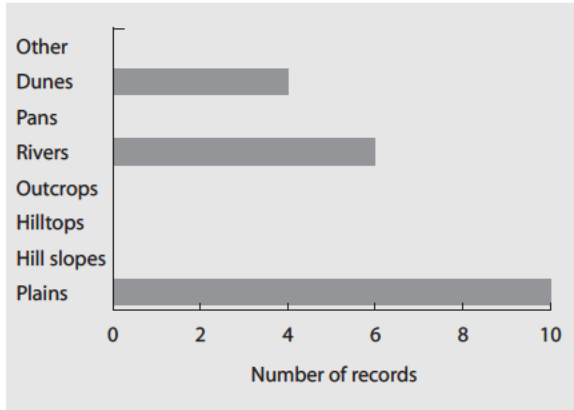


DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Widespread and common in most of the Kavango Region; uncommon and scattered west of 19°E; uncommon and localised in eastern Caprivi. One of the dominant species in some degree-squares in Kavango. There are a few more herbarium records than TAP records in eastern Caprivi and on the edges of its range.

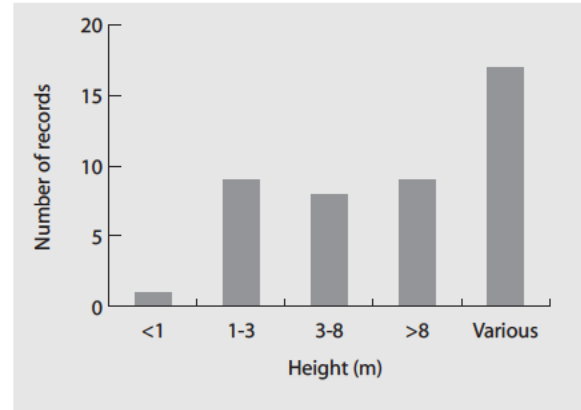
HABITAT

Most often on plains; also dunes, riverbanks and in dry riverbeds. Always on sandy substrates.



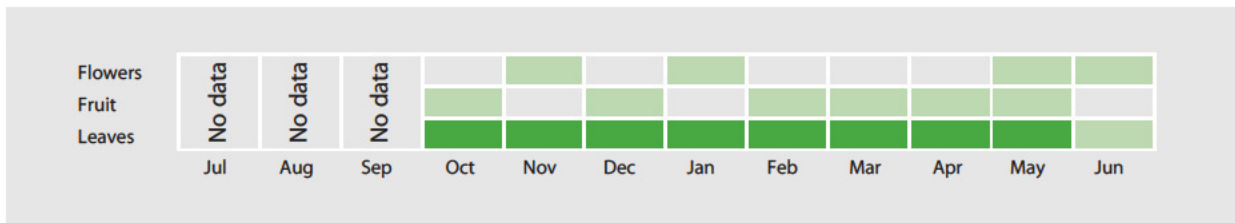
GROWTH FORM

Mostly a tree (63% of records) up to 8 m or more; also a shrub in the 1–3-m height class. Most stands have a mix of height classes.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS single records in January, May, June and November. FRUIT single records most months from October to May. LEAVES found every month that there were observations; young leaves recorded in October.



GENERAL

In areas where there are frequent veld fires, the plants occur mainly as shrubs of 1–3 m high. The wood is used for timber, knife handles and sheaths. The leaves, bark and roots are used medicinally. The fruit is eaten fresh or used to produce an unfermented beverage, or to flavour milk; fresh seeds are eaten raw, while dried seeds can be stored for later use. Seeds are also used to make necklaces.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

Dialium engleranum, L. Hoffmann

