

Diplorhynchus condylocarpon

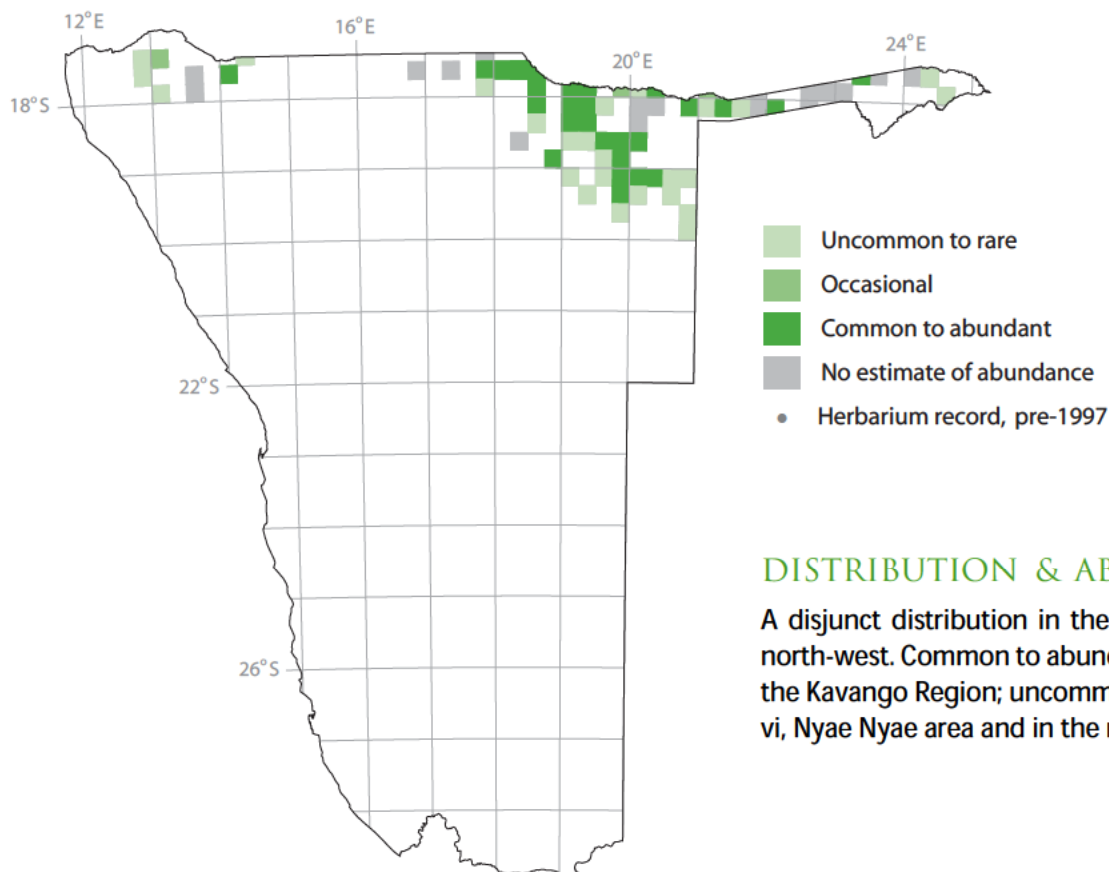
Horn-pod Tree

Murere (Rk, Rum); munoma (T)

[89 records from 73 (7%) squares]

Shrub or multi-stemmed tree, with drooping branches and sticky, milky latex. LEAVES simple, drooping, with long petiole; leaf elliptic to almost circular, 30–100 mm long, dark green, shiny above; pale to yellow-green below; 8–16 pairs of yellowish, parallel lateral veins; margin somewhat wavy. FLOWERS 6–8 mm long, white to cream-coloured; in loose, open, few-flowered sprays. FRUIT paired, horn-like, woody, dry capsules; reddish-brown with white lenticels; splitting open and flattening into a rectangular structure with seeds attached to the corners.

The leaves might be confused with *Ozoroa okavangensis* or *O. longipes*, neither of which has the milky latex or the horned pods of this species.

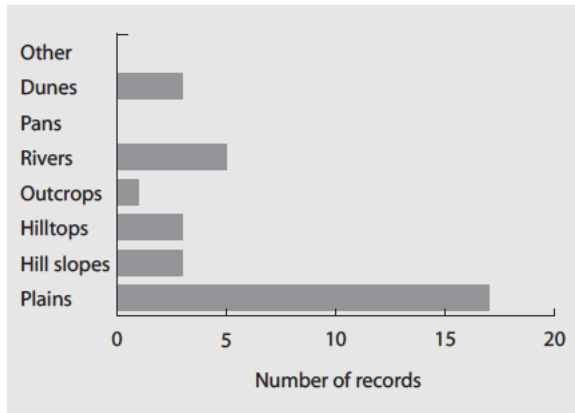


DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

A disjunct distribution in the north-east and north-west. Common to abundant in places in the Kavango Region; uncommon in the Capri-vi, Nyae Nyae area and in the north-west.

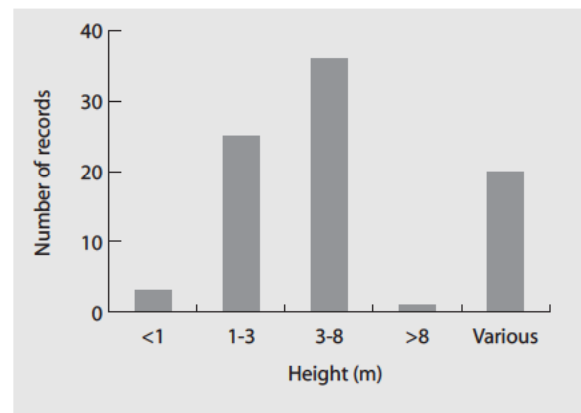
HABITAT

Mainly found on sandy plains in mixed woodland, but also on dunes and along omu-rambas in the north-east; found on rocky hills and outcrops in the north-west.



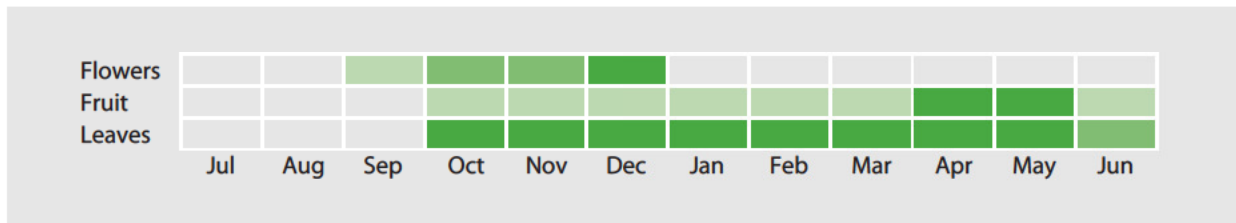
GROWTH FORM

A tree or shrub of 3–8 m high, with many records of stands of plants of mixed heights.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS mainly December, but sometimes starting in September. FRUIT from October to June, but mostly April and May. LEAVES October to June.



GENERAL

Heavily browsed by elephants. This plant is very sensitive to veld-fires, thus single-stemmed trees are seldom found in areas which burn frequently; the wood is used as firewood. The latex is used to trap birds. Various parts of the plant are used medicinally. This plant is of horticultural potential for frost-free areas as seeds and cuttings are easily propagated and it has attractive foliage and flowers.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

Diplorhynchus condylocarpon,
Kavango Region, B. Curtis

