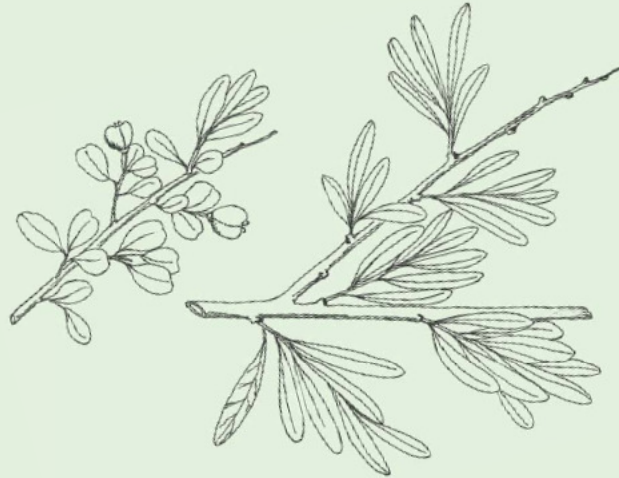


Euphorbia guerichiana

Paper-bark Euphorbia

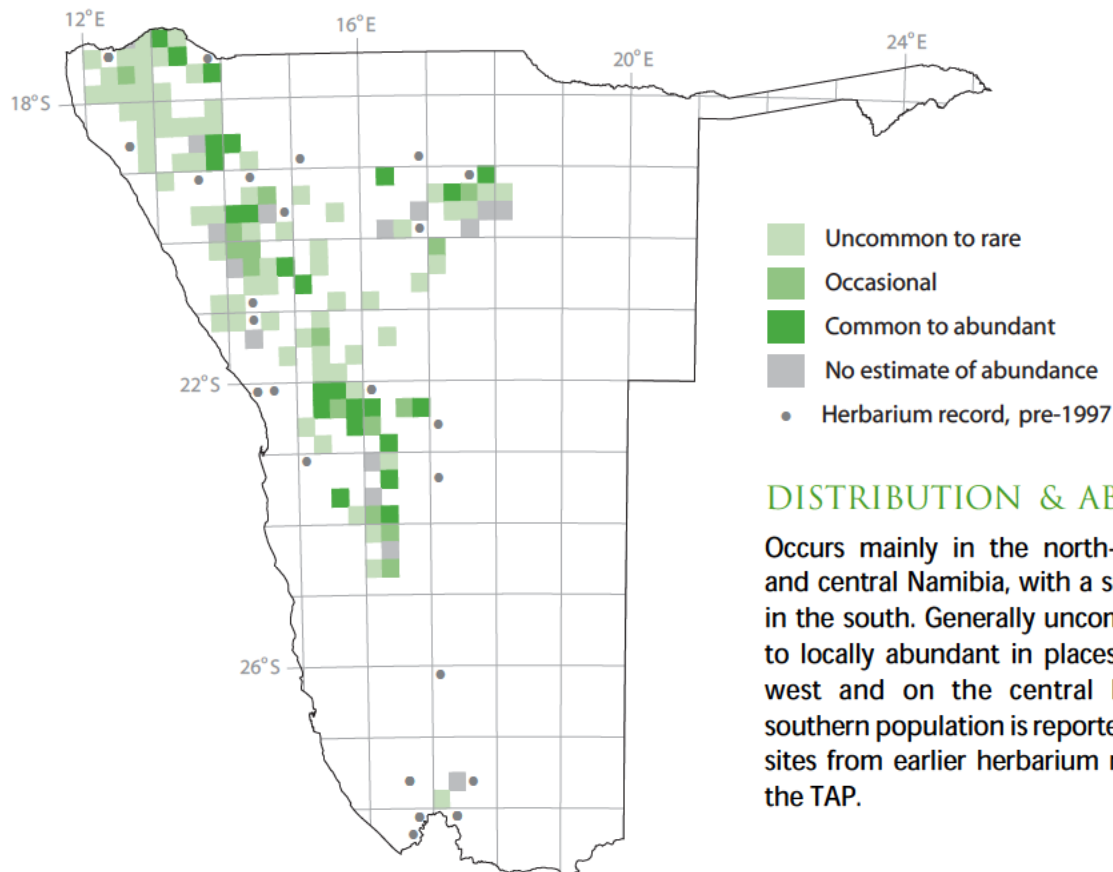
Papierbasmelkbos (A);
omupondororwa (H)

[224 records from 131 (12%) squares]



Deciduous shrub or tree with milky latex. BARK **smooth, waxy, dark brown to yellow, peeling**; young branchlets slender, plum-coloured. LEAVES simple, extremely variable in shape. FLOWERS yellow, small; **solitary cyathia** on dwarf-shoots. FRUIT a smooth, **three-lobed capsule**, up to 6 mm in diameter.

Flowers and fruit may be overlooked if atlasing from a vehicle. May be mistaken for a commiphora when not in flower or fruit.

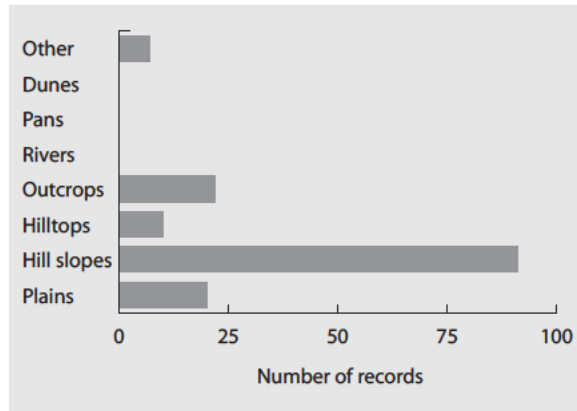


DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Occurs mainly in the north-west, Karstveld and central Namibia, with a small population in the south. Generally uncommon; common to locally abundant in places in the central-west and on the central highlands. The southern population is reported from far more sites from earlier herbarium records than by the TAP.

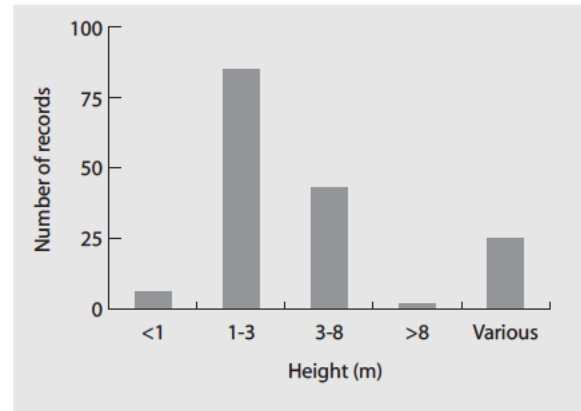
HABITAT

Most often found on hillsides, plains and rocky outcrops. Grows on rocky/stony substrates, as well as sand and sandy loam.



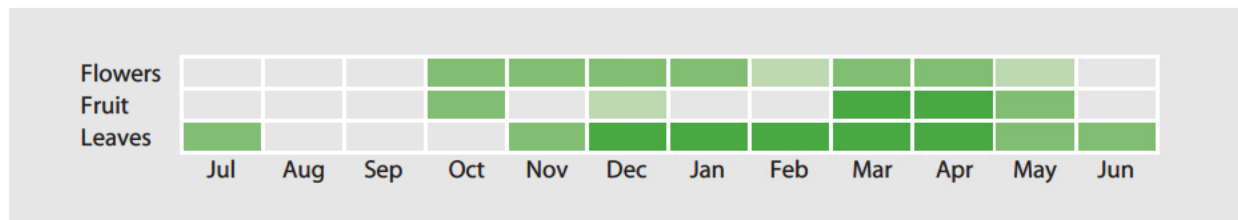
GROWTH FORM

A shrub up to 3 m high or tree (63% of records) 1–8 m high. Generally more tree-like in the north and shrub-like in the south; leaves generally longer and more slender in the north, and small and fleshy in the south.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS October to May, but seldom many recorded. **FRUIT** mainly March and April, but also May and October. **LEAVES** November to July, with young leaves produced from November to January.



GENERAL

Heavily browsed in places; also damaged by elephants. Possible horticultural potential for dry gardens due to attractive bark.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Listed as a CITES Appendix II species.

Euphorbia guerichiana, Kaokoveld, B. Curtis

