

Grewia villosa

Mallow Raisin

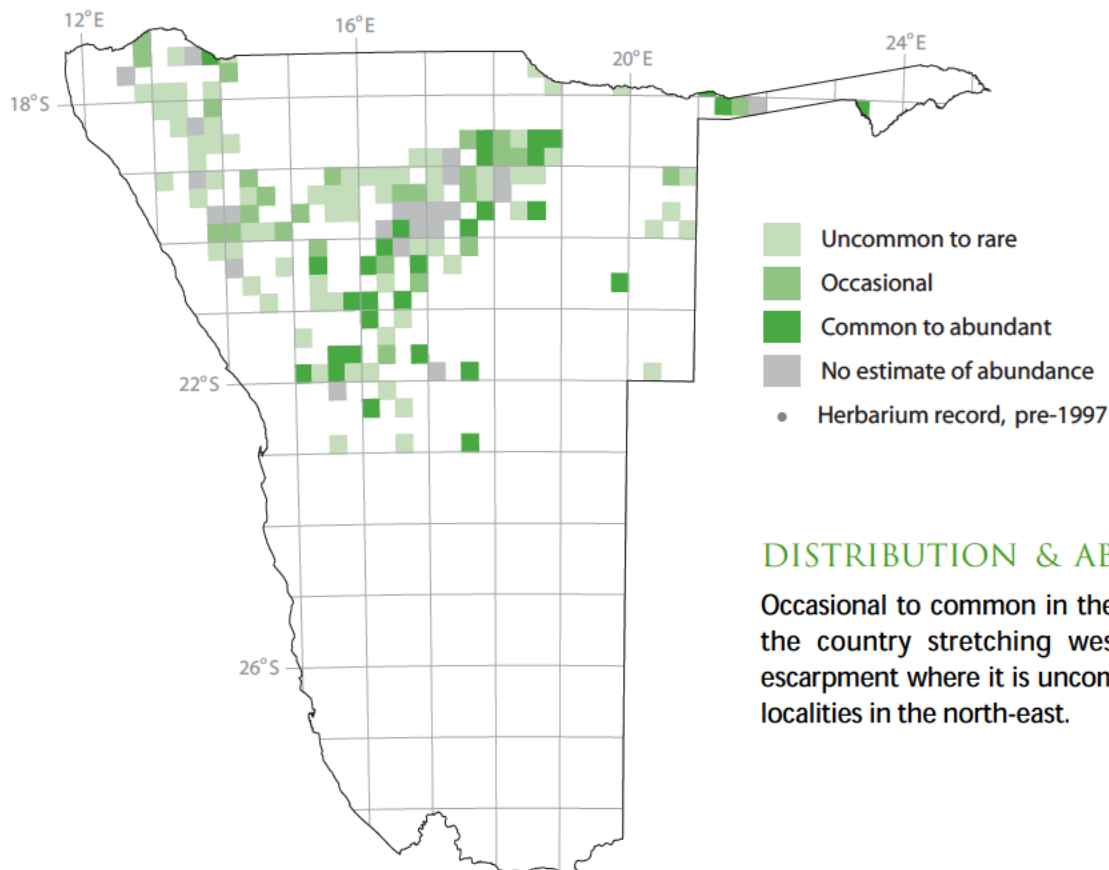
Malvarosyntjie (A); Zottiger
Rosinenstrauch (G); omanjembere (H);
//khoos (K)

[328 records from 154 (14%) squares]



Small, deciduous shrub. BRANCHES hairy. LEAVES almost round to heart-shaped, hairy, surface puckered; veins indented, very regular and distinct; margin irregularly toothed and fringed with hairs; petiole with small, pale brown bristles. FLOWERS yellow turning pink, in tight clusters. FRUIT in tight clusters; round or slightly four-lobed; reddish to pink-orange, with long, soft hairs or short bristles.

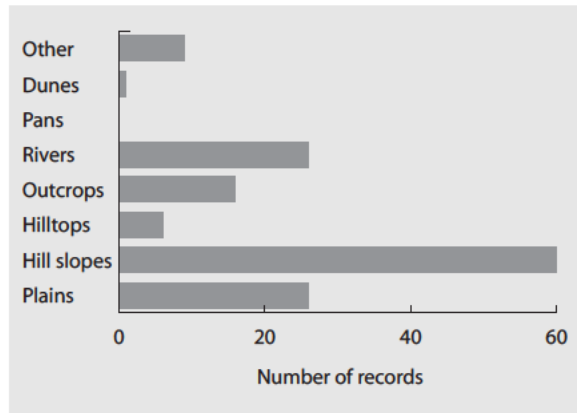
This is the most easily identified *Grewia* species and cannot be confused with any others.

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE**

Occasional to common in the central part of the country stretching westwards to the escarpment where it is uncommon; scattered localities in the north-east.

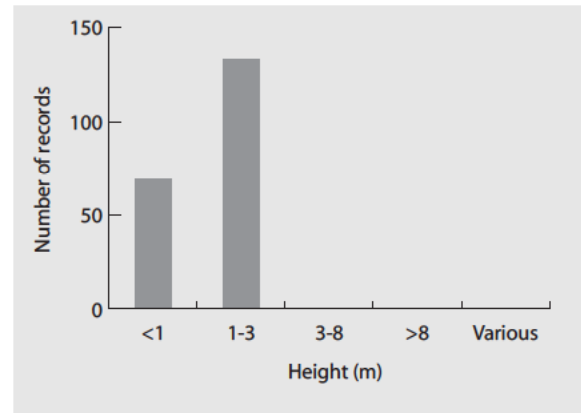
HABITAT

Found in various habitats, but most often on hill slopes. Also on plains in the Karstveld and along dry rivers in the north-west. Grows on sand, soil, rock, stone and calcrete substrates.



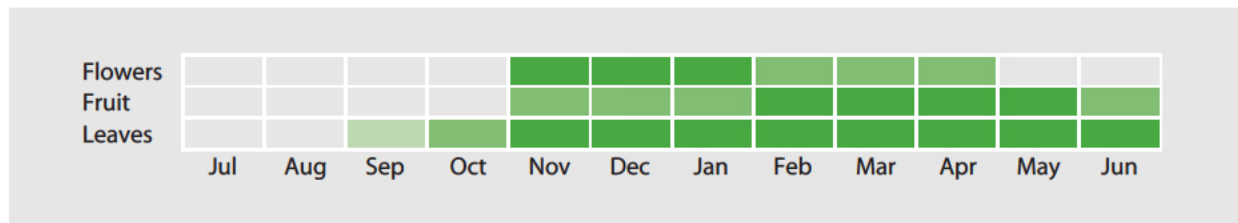
GROWTH FORM

A shrub in the 1–3-m height class, but often less than 1 m.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS November to April. FRUIT November to June. LEAVES mainly November to June, with young leaves in September and October.



GENERAL

The leaves are browsed. The fruit are good to eat and also used to make an alcoholic beverage; the seeds are pounded and eaten. This plant has horticultural potential.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.



Grewia villosa, leaves and fruit, E. Ellinger