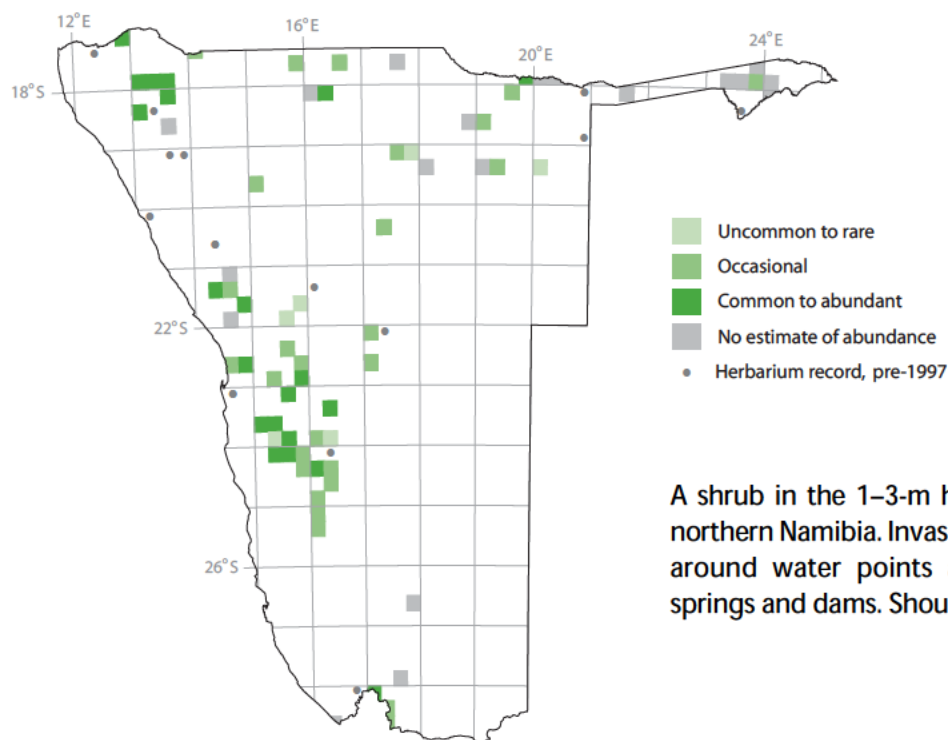


Ricinus communis | Castor-oil Bush

EUPHORBIACEAE | Origin: Tropical Africa | [106 records from 74 squares]

Softly woody shrub or small tree with **sap, not milky**. LEAVES **palmately five- to nine-lobed, margins closely serrated**. FLOWERS upper parts reddish, lower cream-coloured. FRUIT three-lobed capsules with soft 'spines'. The leaves are poisonous and the **seed coat highly toxic and lethal**; the seed oil used medicinally.



A shrub in the 1–3-m height class. Cultivated in northern Namibia. Invasive in many riverbeds, and around water points and wet areas, such as springs and dams. Should be controlled.

Jatropha curcas | Physic Nut

EUPHORBIACEAE | Origin: Tropical America | [2 records from 1 square]

Perennial tree or shrub, with **swollen stem and milky latex**. LEAVES fairly large, **deeply lobed**, dark shiny green. FLOWERS small, **but in erect sprays, bright scarlet**. FRUIT a round, grape-like berry, **red**. Planted in gardens as an ornamental.

Uncommon shrub of up to and over 3 m high in one locality along the Orange River (2719DC). Causes poisoning in children occasionally. Used in traditional medicine. Not considered a threat in Namibia.