

Markhamia obtusifolia

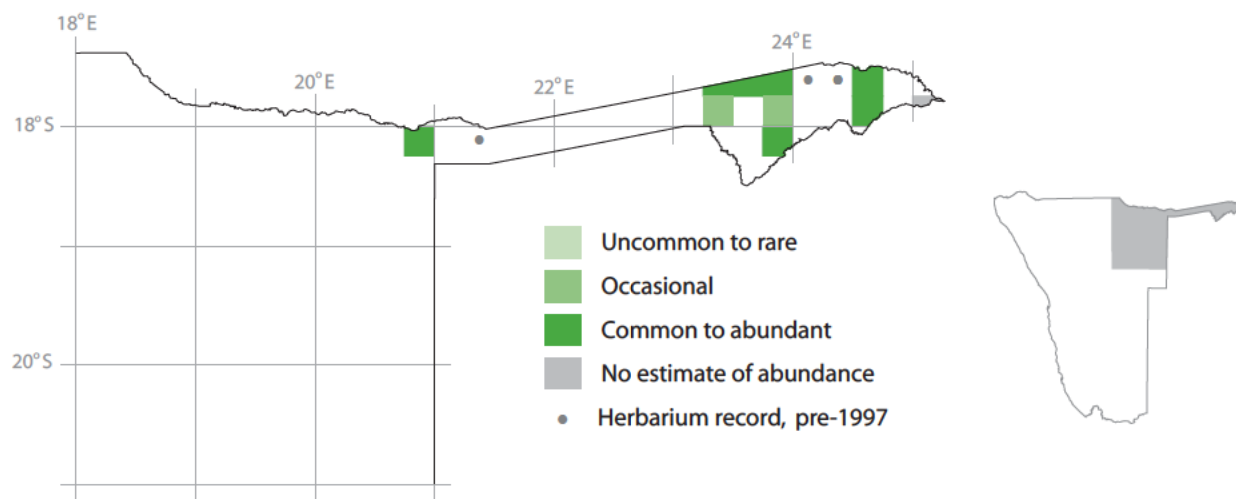
Golden Bell-bean

Goueklokkiesboontjie (A);
|kgai-tara (Kx); mukupukupu (L);
mukurathiku (T)

[16 records from 10 (<1%) squares]



Deciduous, **untidy shrub**; rarely a small tree. BARK brownish-grey, with white lenticels and vertical grooves; youngest branchlets with golden, hairy covering. LEAVES compound, 250–400 mm long; leaflets **ovate to elliptic, darker green above than below**; hairy below. FLOWERS **large, irregularly tubular, showy, golden-yellow with red streaks on the lower three corolla lobes**. FRUIT a long, slender capsule in clusters; **up to 400 mm long**; light brown, velvety when young; dark brown when ripe.



DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Mainly found in eastern Caprivi, with one locality along the Okavango River and another earlier herbarium record from a bit further downstream. Common to abundant; sometimes forming dense stands.

HABITAT

Found on sandy plains in woodland; also on floodplains in the Caprivi.

GROWTH FORM

Always a shrub, mostly in the 1–3-m height category.

ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS November to March. FRUIT October to March. LEAVES apparently deciduous, but no observations made in winter; bare in October.

GENERAL

Easily colonises disturbed areas. Has horticultural potential for frost-free areas due to its lovely flowers.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

Markhamia zanzibarica

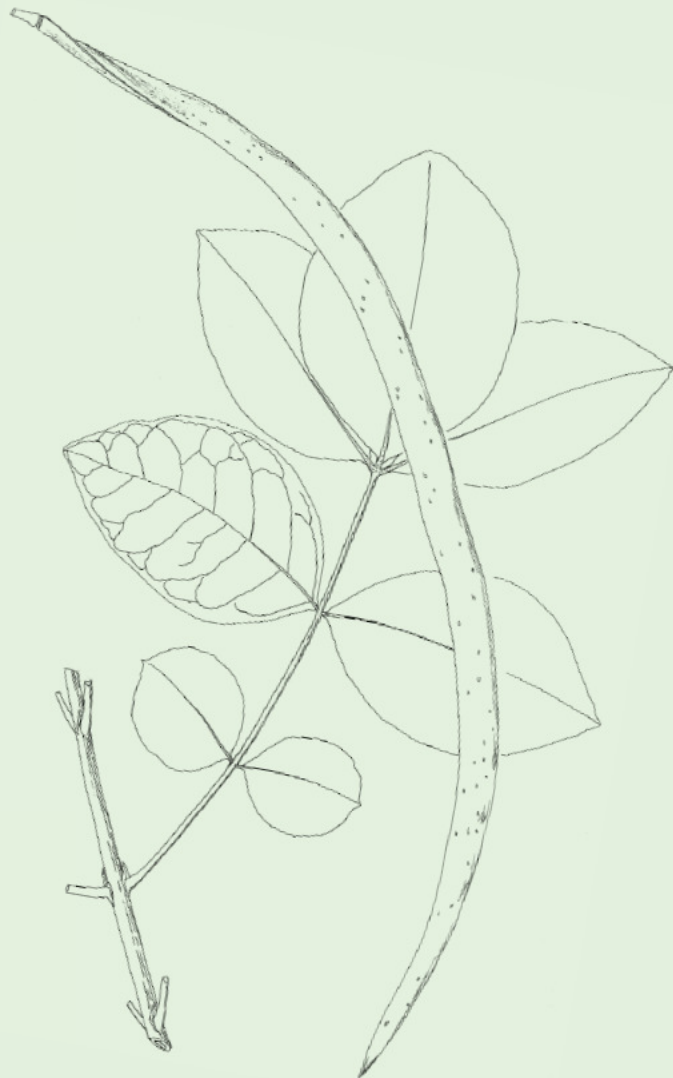
= *Markhamia acuminata*

Bell-bean

Klokkiesboontjieboom (A); kaitala (Kx); mupatagwali (L)

[27 records from 20 (2%) squares]

Deciduous, **untidy shrub** or tree. BARK smooth, shiny, grey-brown to dark grey; flaking near the base in uneven plates. BRANCHES brittle; young branchlets white-downy. LEAVES compound, with 2–3 sessile leaflet pairs, **the basal pair is distinctly smaller than the others; leaflets obovate to almost circular**; dark green above, with sparse hairs and scales; paler below. FLOWERS large, bell-shaped, striking; yellow with dense, maroon flecks. FRUIT a long, sickle-shaped, twisted capsule up to c. 10 mm broad; brown with whitish dots when ripe.



BIGNONIACEAE | JACARANDA FAMILY

This family of shrubs, trees and lianas generally has large, compound leaves. The large, showy flowers are bell- or trumpet-shaped, with the corolla tips free and curled backwards. The fruit are generally long, narrow, dehiscent pods or large berries.



Top left: *Markhamia obtusifolia*, C. Hines



Top right: *Kigelia africana*, tree with fruit, B. Curtis

Right: *Kigelia africana*, flower, P. Reiner

