

# *Mystroxylon aethiopicum*

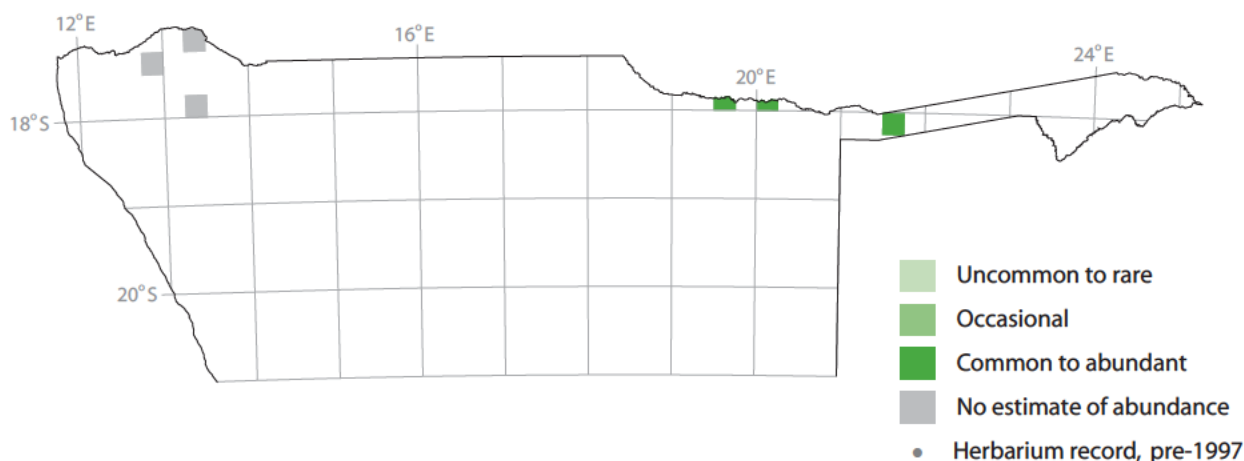
= *Cassine aethiopica*

## Kooboo-berry

Koeboebessie (A)

[7 records from 6 (<1%) squares]

Semi-deciduous to evergreen shrub, or multi-stemmed tree with spreading crown and **dense, dark foliage**. LEAVES simple, ovate to lanceolate or oblong, 13–120 mm long, **leathery**; dark green above, with a dull, waxy coating or glossy, smooth; margin entire to finely toothed. FLOWERS yellowish-green, small, with a delicate fragrance. FRUIT a round to ovoid berry, up to 20 mm long; smooth, **bright red to purplish-red when ripe**.



## DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Uncommon in the north-west; locally common in a few localities along the Okavango River. The three north-western records are range extensions for Namibia that have all been confirmed by specimens (LH896, 952 and 958). There is one earlier herbarium record from the eastern Okavango River.

## HABITAT

River banks.

## GROWTH FORM

A tree or shrub, mostly in the 3–8-m height class, but also lower.

## ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS herbarium records in October and November. FRUIT April, November and December. LEAVES observations only in March, May and December.

## CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded. Has probably always been uncommon in Namibia.