**Ozoroa paniculosa**

Common Resin-bush  
Plattbeerstrauch, Wurzelbusch (G)

[454 records from 184 (17%) squares]

Many-stemmed, untidy, lax shrub or a single-stemmed tree. **Bark** grey, rough; older branchlets speckled black. **Leaves** simple, spirally arranged or whorled in threes, elliptic to elliptic-oblong, 40–100 x 13–40 mm; dark green and hairless, or sparsely downy above; silvery, velvety covering below, midrib prominent, lateral veins characteristically parallel; margin entire; apex with bristle-tip; base broadly tapering to blunt; petiole 6–16 mm long. **Inflorescence** an axillary or terminal spray, up to 60 mm long. Flowers small, white. Fruit kidney-shaped, up to 7 x 10 mm; black when ripe.

May be confused with **O. insignis**. (See **O. insignis** for differences.)

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**Distribution & Abundance**

Occasional in the north-east, excluding Caprivi; generally common in eastern-central Namibia; uncommon in a few scattered localities in the north-west. The record in the extreme west (1712DC) is a range extension (specimen HK954).
HABITAT
Mainly found on sandy plains, occasionally hill slopes.

GROWTH FORM
Mostly a shrub of less than 1 m high; sometimes up to 3 m; occasionally a tree of 3–8 m high. Often many-stemmed and forming quite large stands in some sandy areas.

ANNUAL CYCLE
FLOWERS December to March. FRUIT December to June. LEAVES mainly October to June, with young leaves from September to November.

GENERAL
The leaves are used medicinally. The Otjiherero name, 'omutareka', means 'shade', so-called because in the shade of this plant grows a climber, Fockea angustifolia, which has a thick, edible root, as long as a hand (HOF1).

CONSERVATION CONCERNS
None recorded.

Ozoroa paniculosa,
tree growth form, L. Hoffmann