

Pappea capensis

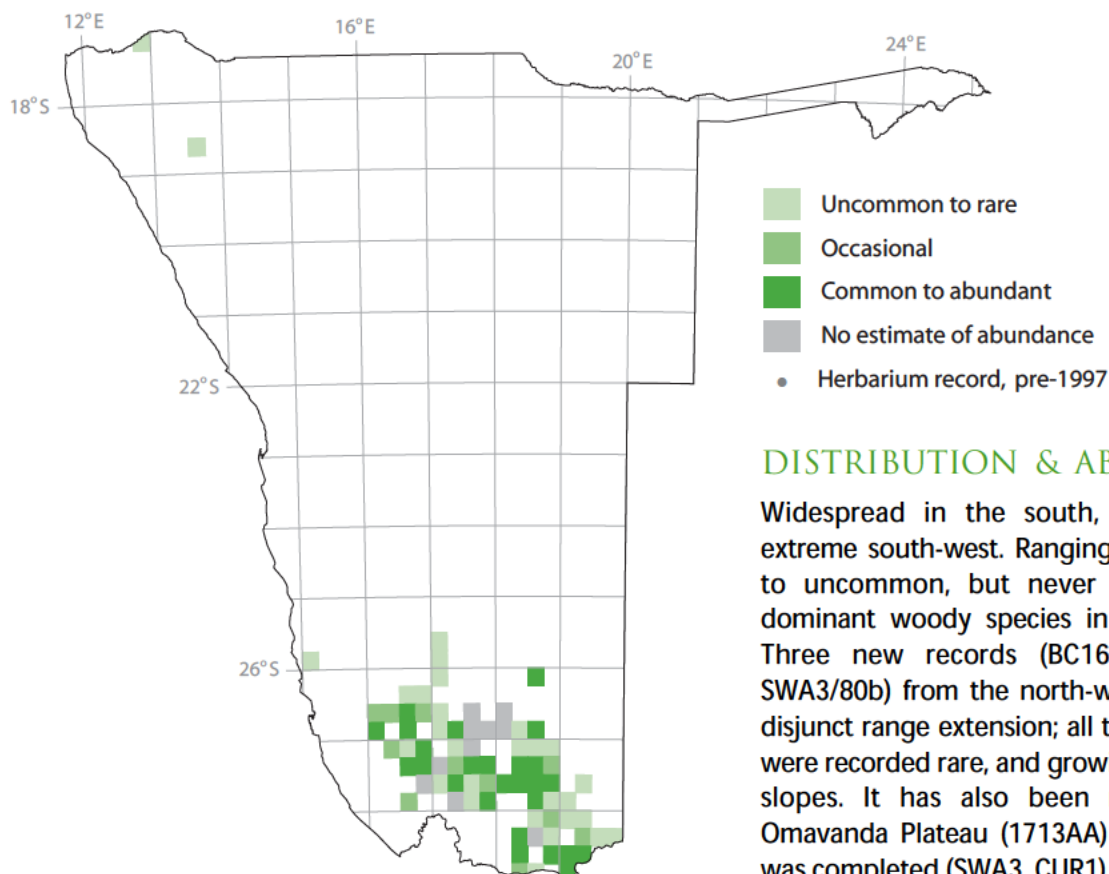
Jacket-plum

Doppruim, kouboom (A)

[136 records from 76 (7%) squares]



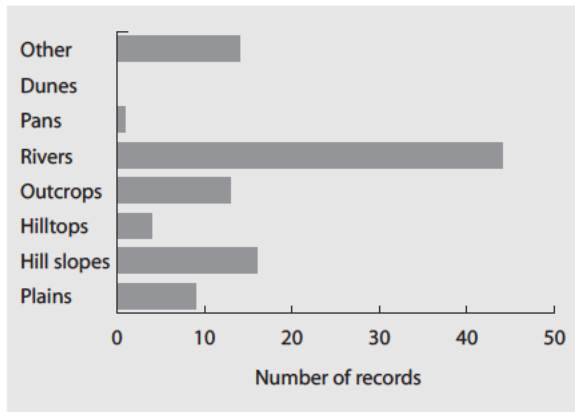
Spreading tree. LEAVES simple, spirally arranged or terminally clustered on branchlets; **leathery, dull green; margin entire, but markedly wavy and conspicuously spine-toothed on young leaves and coppice growth.** FLOWERS small, unisexual, green to cream-coloured. FRUIT fairly small, almost round; hard, furry, brown; splitting open when ripe to reveal a single **shiny, black seed, covered by an orange-red, jelly-like aril.**
The flowers might be overlooked but the fruit are obvious.

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE**

Widespread in the south, excluding the extreme south-west. Ranging from common to uncommon, but never abundant; the dominant woody species in three squares. Three new records (BC1653, 2028 and SWA3/80b) from the north-west represent a disjunct range extension; all three specimens were recorded rare, and growing on steep hill slopes. It has also been recorded from Omavanda Plateau (1713AA) since the map was completed (SWA3, CUR1).

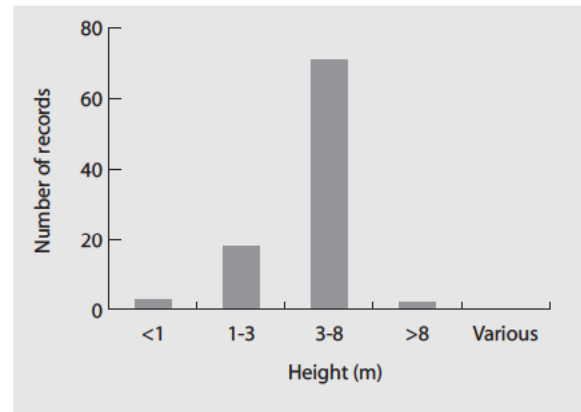
HABITAT

Various, but mainly along dry watercourses.
Generally found on rocky or gravel substrates.



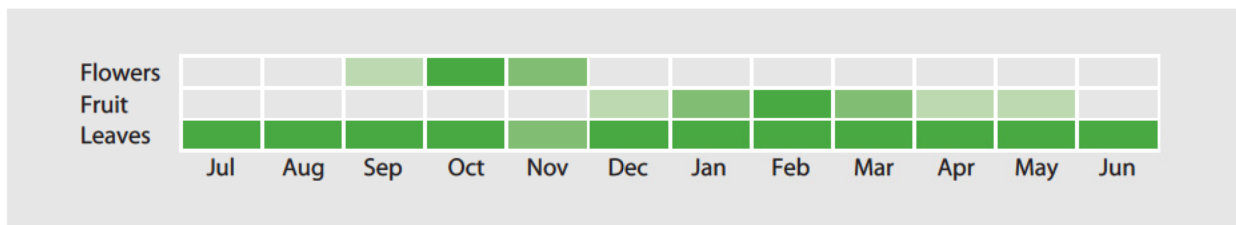
GROWTH FORM

Generally a tree in the 3–8-m height class. Mixed height stands were noted in a number of areas.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS September to November. FRUIT December to May. LEAVES evergreen.



GENERAL

The leaves are browsed by animals. The bark is toxic; the fruit are edible and the seeds contain an oil which is used medicinally. The wood is hard and durable.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded. Protected by forestry legislation.

Pappaea capensis,
Southern Namib,
C. Mannheimer

