

# *Parinari curatellifolia*

## Mobola-plum

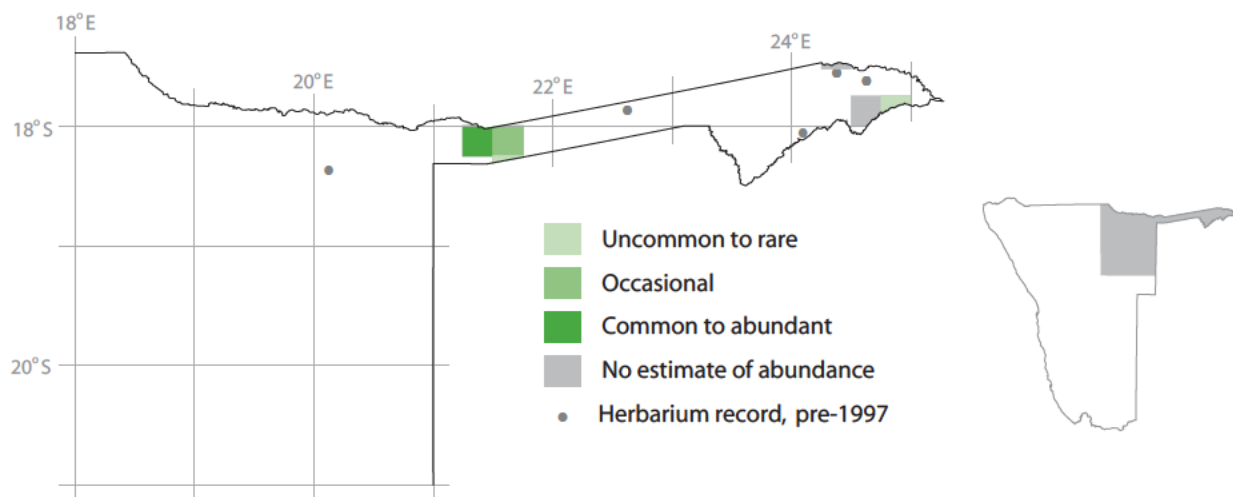
Grysappel (A)

[9 records from 5 squares]



Following strict taxonomic order, this species should follow *Montinia caryophyllacea*.

Large, evergreen tree with **spreading crown**, up to 20 m high. BARK dark grey, corky. LEAVES simple, alternate; elliptic to oblong, 50–110 mm long, dark green, shiny, hairless, **with prominent parallel secondary veins below** and with densely woolly covering; margin entire, occasionally undulate; apex blunt; base heart-shaped to blunt. FLOWERS small, white. FRUIT **ovoid to spherical**, c. 35 x 20 mm; **greyish to brownish, scaly skin; sweet, edible, yellowish mealy flesh**.



### DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Uncommon in eastern Caprivi; uncommon to common along the eastern stretches of the Okavango River.

### HABITAT

Along river banks, in riverine forest.

### GROWTH FORM

A tree of over 8 m tall.

### ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS only recorded in May. FRUIT September to May. LEAVES recorded in September and March to May.

### GENERAL

The fruit is fragrant, sweet and edible, with a floury texture, and a high vitamin C content. The kernel is eaten as a nut and has a high oil content. Leaves are chewed to cure coughs.

### CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Although the trees are highly valued for their shade and fruit, they are overexploited and easily damaged, and are usually only found in places where they are protected in some way.