

Pavetta gardeniifolia

Common Bride's-bush

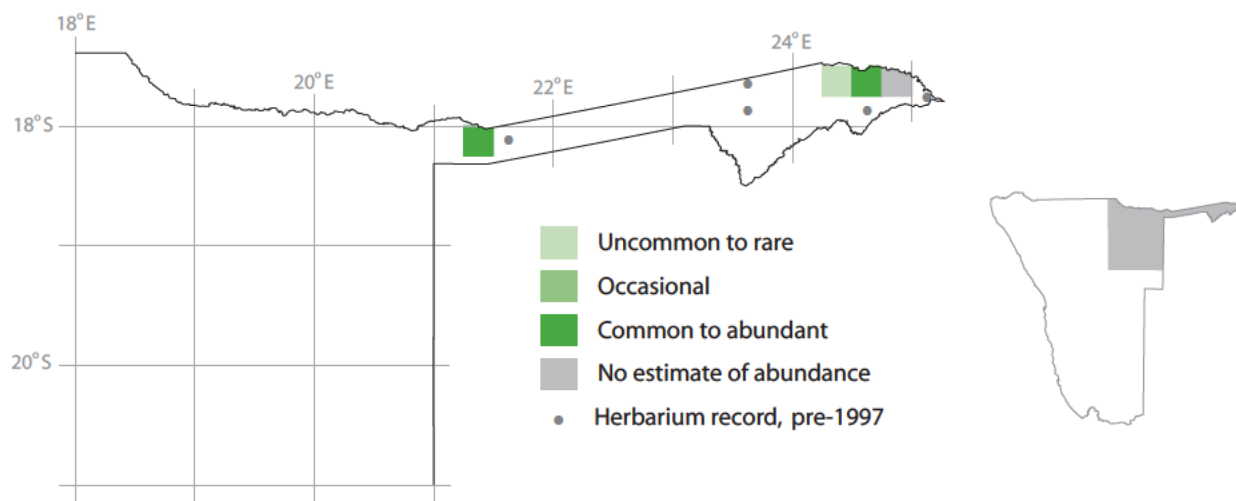
Stinkblaarbruidsbos (A)

[4 records from 4 squares]



Deciduous shrub. LEAVES simple, each leaf-pair at right angles to the previous pair (decussate), with black bacterial nodules; **obovate**, up to 60 mm long; dark green and shiny above; dull, dark green below; petiole 4–10 mm long. FLOWERS dirty white, tubular, scented; hairless on outside. FRUIT spherical, up to 8 mm in diameter; with remains of **calyx at tip**; shiny black when ripe.

There are two subspecies in Namibia, *gardeniifolia* and *subtomentosa*, but no distinction has been made between the two.



DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Common in the Andara area on the Okavango River and on the eastern Caprivi floodplains; uncommon just south of Katima Mulilo.

HABITAT

Found on river banks and floodplains.

GROWTH FORM

A shrub in the 1–3-m height class, once recorded as taller.

ANNUAL CYCLE

Observations in October, November and March only. FLOWERS recorded in November by the TAP, and in January and March from herbarium records. FRUIT recorded in March by the TAP, and June and July from herbarium records. LEAVES present in the three months of observation.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.