

Ptaeroxylon obliquum

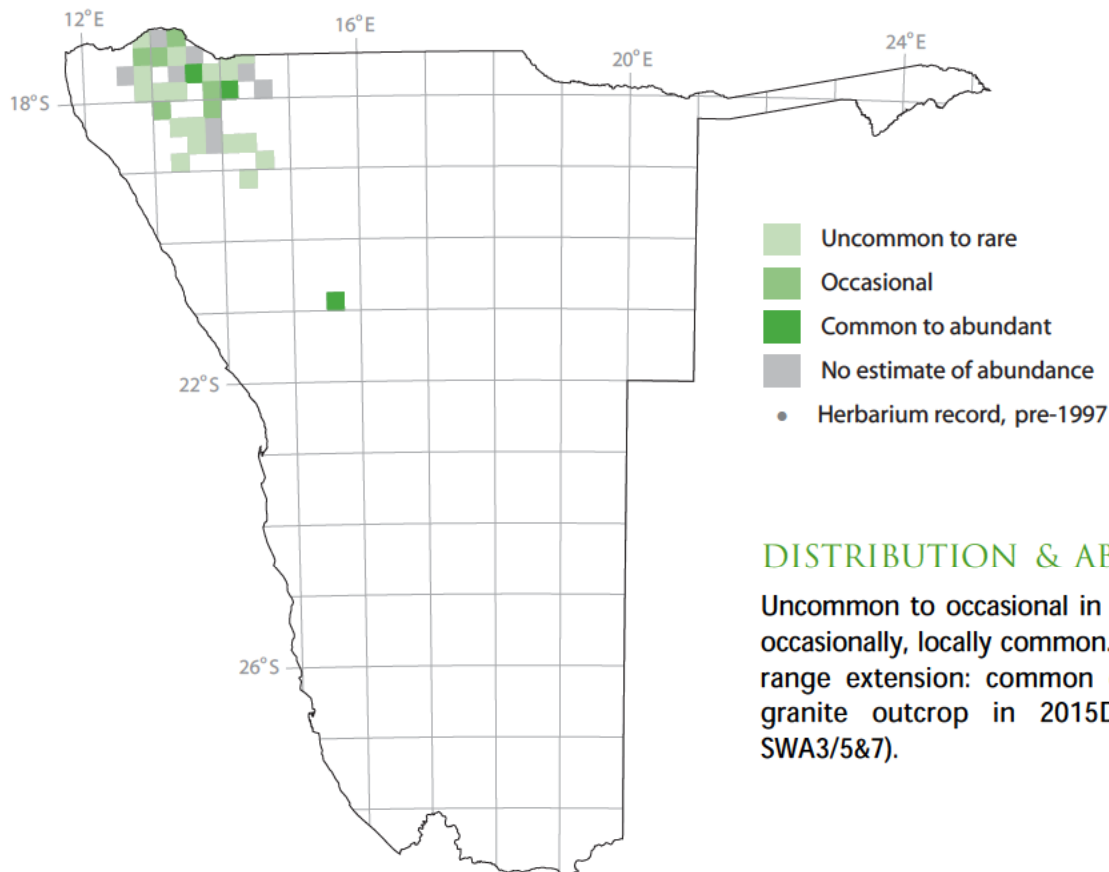
Omumbungururu

Sneezewood (E)

[57 records from 36 (3%) squares]



Slender, low-branching tree. BARK dark, fissured. LEAVES compound, bright green, rachis slightly winged; leaflet obliquely elliptic to oblanceolate, with lower half much smaller than upper half; base characteristically obliquely wedge-shaped. FLOWERS tiny, pale yellow. FRUIT a characteristically veined, oblong capsule.

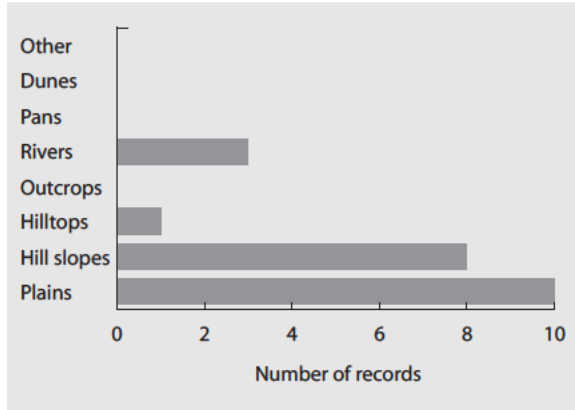


DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Uncommon to occasional in the north-west; occasionally, locally common. There is a new range extension: common on an isolated granite outcrop in 2015DC (specimens SWA3/5&7).

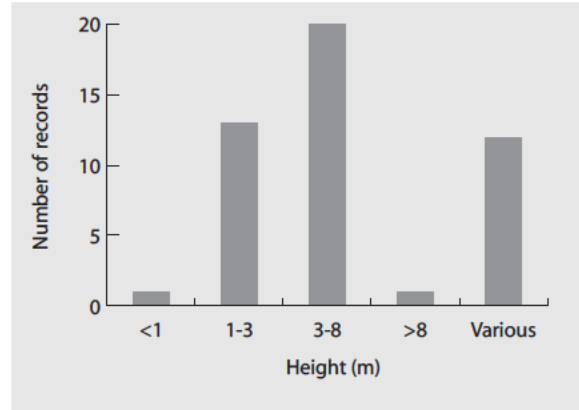
HABITAT

Chiefly found on plains and hill slopes in woodland areas. Grows on gravel, stony or sandy substrates.



GROWTH FORM

A tree, mostly in the 3–8-m height class, with shrubby forms 1–3 m high.



ANNUAL CYCLE

Observations mainly March and April, a few in May and January, one each in August and November. FLOWERS March. FRUIT May and June. LEAVES apparently evergreen (only one observation between June and October).

GENERAL

Leaves browsed by livestock and game; sharply aromatic when bruised. Wood used to make knobkerries and walking sticks; coals used in the ovens of the Himba ironsmiths, but not for indoor fires as the smoke irritates the throat. Young twigs and branches used medicinally; wood used as an insect repellent. Regarded as a good luck charm. Elsewhere in southern Africa, *P. obliquum* occurs in areas with much higher rainfall, including the mist belt in montane forests.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

Turraea zambesica

Zambezi Honeysuckle-tree

[3 records from 3 squares]

MELIACEAE

A shrub or slender tree occurring in riverine woodlands and thickets. LEAVES elliptic. FLOWERS small, creamy-white. FRUIT a thinly woody capsule.

Three TAP records from far eastern Caprivi (1724AD, DB and DC). Previously recorded (herbarium) from two additional squares. A rare tree in the 3–8-m height class found on a river bank, floodplain and sandy plain. Flowers recorded in November; old flowers in July.