Rourea orientalis

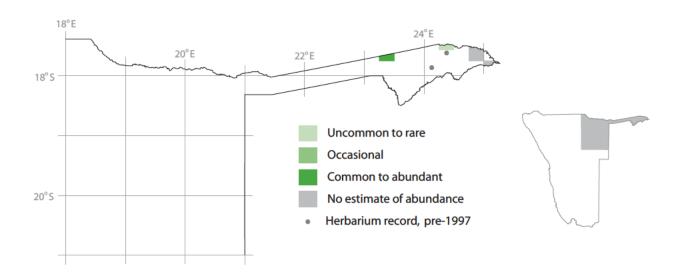
= Byrsocarpus orientalis

Short-pod

[4 records from 4 squares]

Scrambling shrub or tree. BARK of young branchlets brown-purple, with conspicuous lenticels. Leaves compound, up to 200 mm long; leaflets elliptic to oblong, up to 40 mm long; bright green above; paler below; midrib often densely hairy, especially below; apex usually with a fine hair-like tip. Flowers

conspicuous, up to 30 mm in diameter, creamy-white, rarely tinged pink, sweet lemon-scented. FRUIT an oval capsule, c. 20 mm long, red-brown and splitting open when ripe. SEEDS completely enclosed in a bright scarlet aril.



DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Common to uncommon in a few squares in eastern Caprivi.

HABITAT

River banks and floodplains.

GROWTH FORM

A shrub in the 1–3-m height class, a tree in the 3–8-m height class and a scrambler of over 8 m.

ANNUAL CYCLE

Observations only made in November and December. FLOWERS recorded in December. FRUIT in November and December. LEAVES only observed in November and December.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.