Salvadora persica

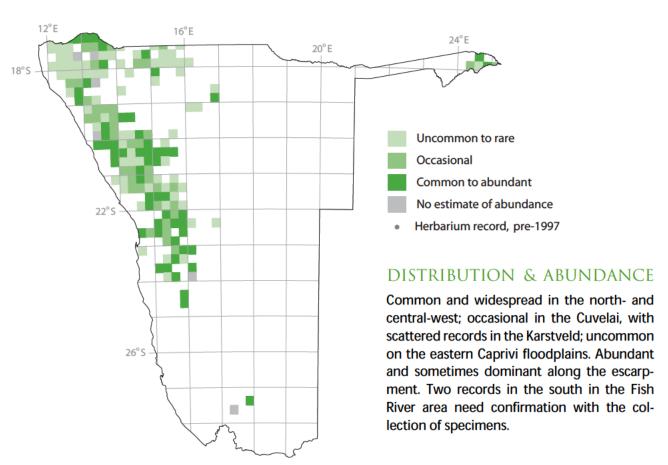
Mustard bush

Kerriebos (A); Pfefferstrauch (G); omungambu (H); khooris (K)

[588 records from 180 (17%) squares]

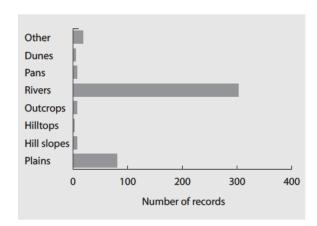
Dense evergreen shrub, often broader than high, and often browsed into a tree. Leaves simple, up to 80 mm long; pale yellow-green, hairless, leathery-succulent. FLOWERS small, greenish-yellow. FRUIT a small, round berry, dark red-purple when ripe.





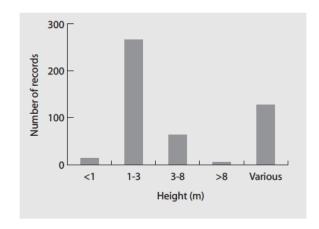
HABITAT

Most often found in dry riverbeds and on river banks, where it was common to abundant; sometimes on plains and valley floors. Mostly grows on clay or sandy substrates, but also on calcrete, granitic soils or other stony substrates; often on termite mounds.



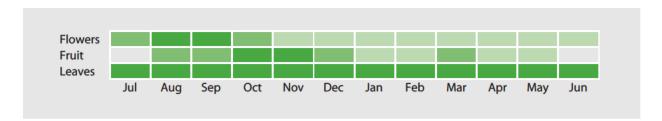
GROWTH FORM

Mostly a shrub (75% or records) up to 3 m high, but often over; sometimes a tree (17%) between 2 and 8 m high; also recorded climbing into other plants (8%). Often browsed into tree form. A number of records were of stands of mixed heights.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS all year round, but mostly July to October. FRUIT recorded most months, but most common from August to December. Leaves evergreen.



GENERAL

The leaves are heavily browsed by stock and game; birds feed on the fruit. The fruit are edible, and the leaves and roots are used for medicinal purposes; young branchlets and roots are used for cleaning teeth.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.