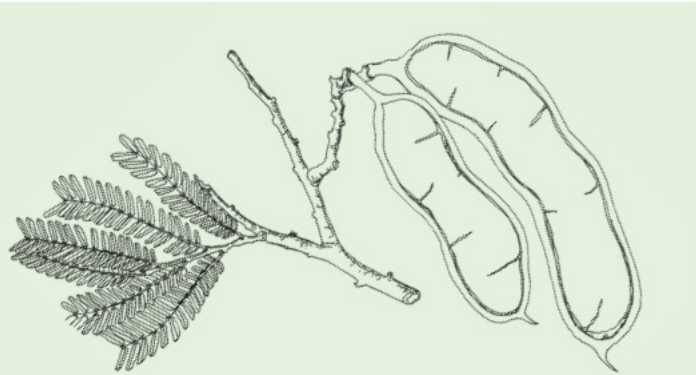


Schotia afra

Karoo Schotia

Karoooerboon (A)

[14 records from 9 (<1%) squares]

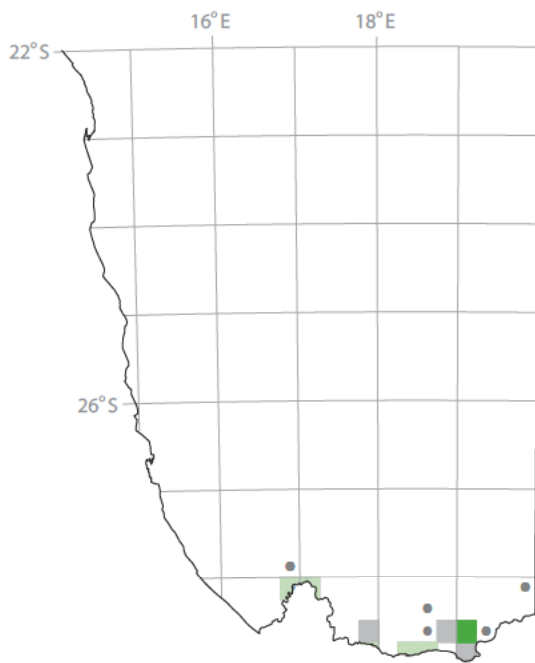


Sturdy shrub or small tree with a gnarled trunk and rigid branchlets. LEAVES compound, with small, narrow leaflets. FLOWERS **bright red, with stamens protruding beyond the petals**; up to 18 mm long; in clusters on the ends of branches. FRUIT a somewhat sickle-shaped, **flattened, woody pod, with a pointed apex and thickened margins which are persistent; splits along the lateral walls when ripe**.

Flowers and fruit are conspicuous.

DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Generally uncommon along the northern bank of the Orange River. It was locally common in 2819CA and the dominant woody species in kloofs in 2817AA. There are a few earlier herbarium records which were not reconfirmed by the TAP.



- Uncommon to rare
- Occasional
- Common to abundant
- No estimate of abundance
- Herbarium record, pre-1997

HABITAT

Mostly found along dry water courses among rocky hills, on gravel or stony substrates.

GROWTH FORM

Generally a tree in the 3–8-m category; twice recorded as over 8 m. Sometimes a shrub of less than 3 m.

ANNUAL CYCLE

Observations were made August to November, and in February and March. FLOWERS September to November. FRUIT August, February to May. LEAVES apparently evergreen.

GENERAL

The seeds of this plant are edible. The flowers attract many insects. This plant has horticultural potential due to its drought-tolerance, lack of thorns and striking clusters of deep crimson flowers.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

No threats reported. This plant is rare in Namibia, and protected by forestry legislation.