

# *Sesamothamnus guerichii*

## Herero Sesame-bush

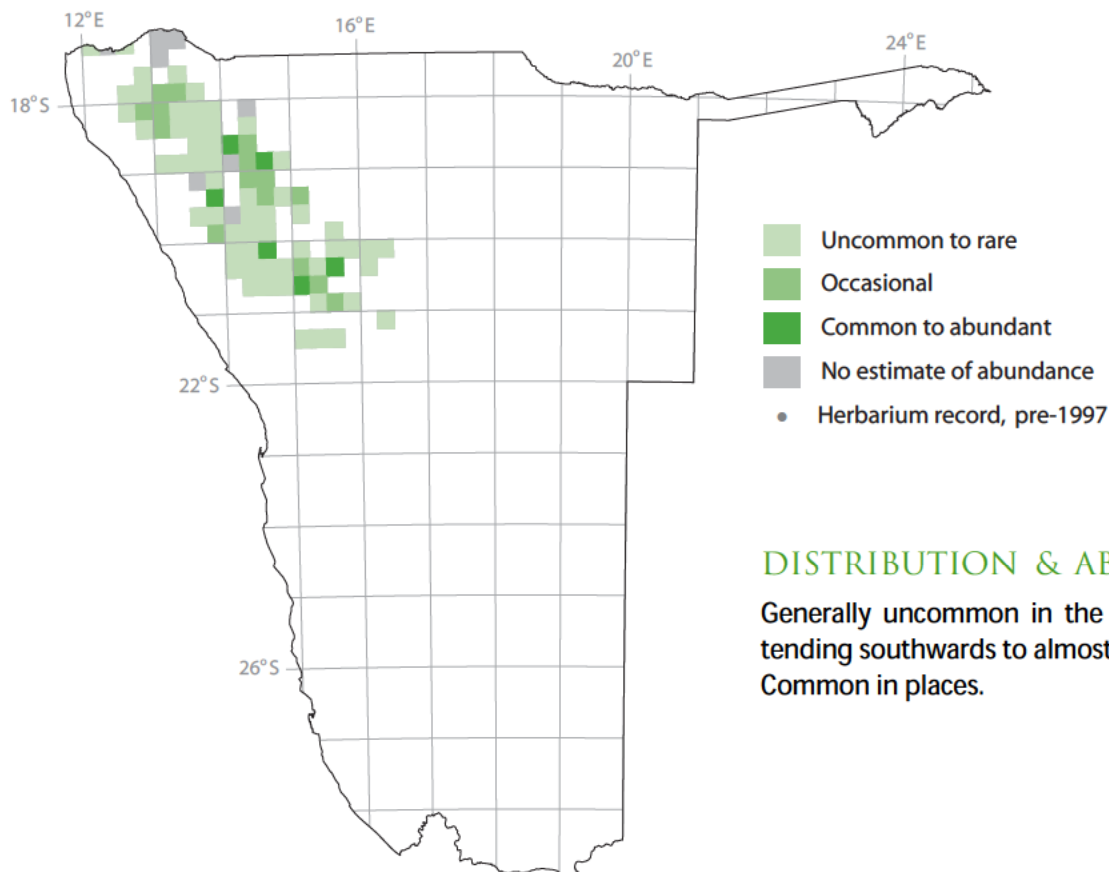
Ongumbati (H); |hoeb (K)

[215 records from 86 (8%) squares]



Rigid, erect shrub or multi-stemmed tree, **with a succulent trunk**. BARK yellow-brown to **creamy-grey, not peeling**. LEAVES obovate to oblanceolate, **20–30 mm long; grey-green with dense hairs and white woolly covering**; midrib prominent below; apex blunt; base tapering. FLOWERS **bright yellow**; corolla tube curved, sometimes almost S-shaped; 50–65 mm long, swollen at base. FRUIT obovoid, up to 60 x 35 mm; apex rounded to indented, with or without a point.

Can be confused with *S. benguellensis*, which has white flowers with a spur, and larger leaves, and a far more restricted distribution.

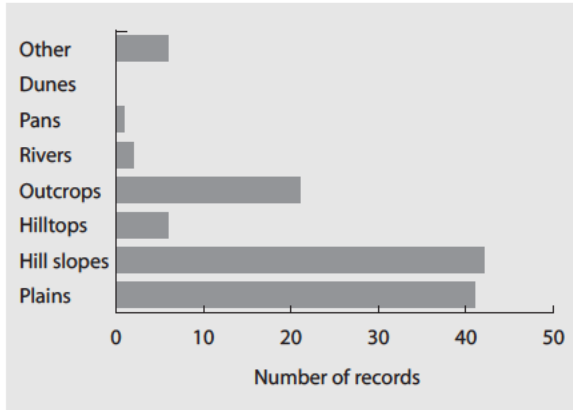


### DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Generally uncommon in the north-west, extending southwards to almost 22° S. Common in places.

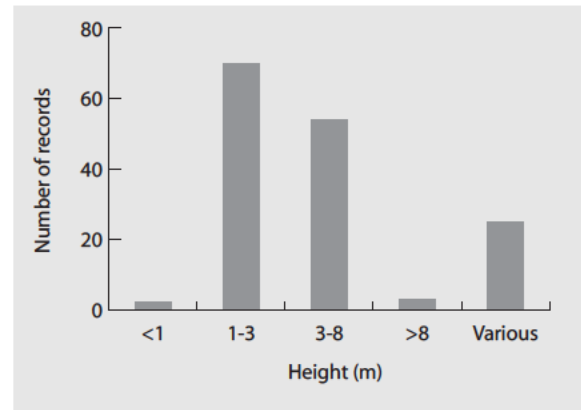
### HABITAT

Found in various habitats, but mainly on gravel plains, hill slopes and rocky outcrops. Grows on rocky or stony substrates.



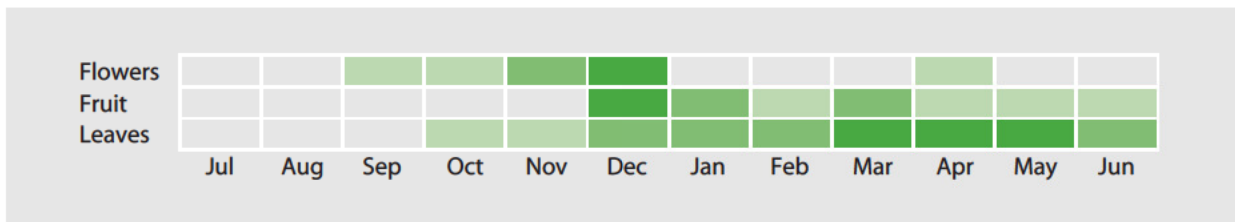
### GROWTH FORM

Equally often described as a tree as a shrub. Shrubs generally in the 1–3-m height class; trees 3–8 m, seldom over 8 m.



### ANNUAL CYCLE

**FLOWERS** September to December, and again in April. **FRUIT** December to June. **LEAVES** present on some trees from October to June, but mainly March to May, during and just after the rains.

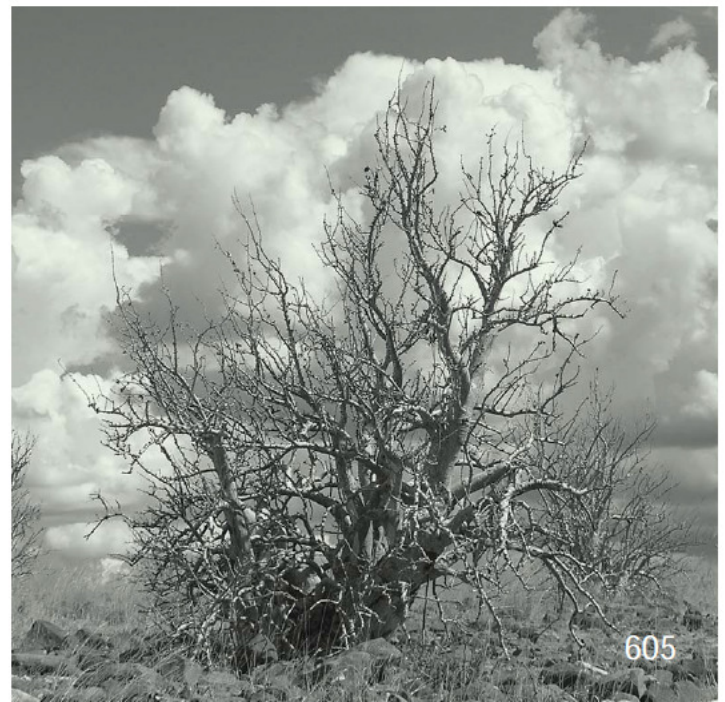


### GENERAL

The roots are chewed as a cough remedy. This plant is of horticultural potential for dry gardens and the pachycaul trade.

### CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.



*Sesamothamnus guerichii*, B. Curtis