

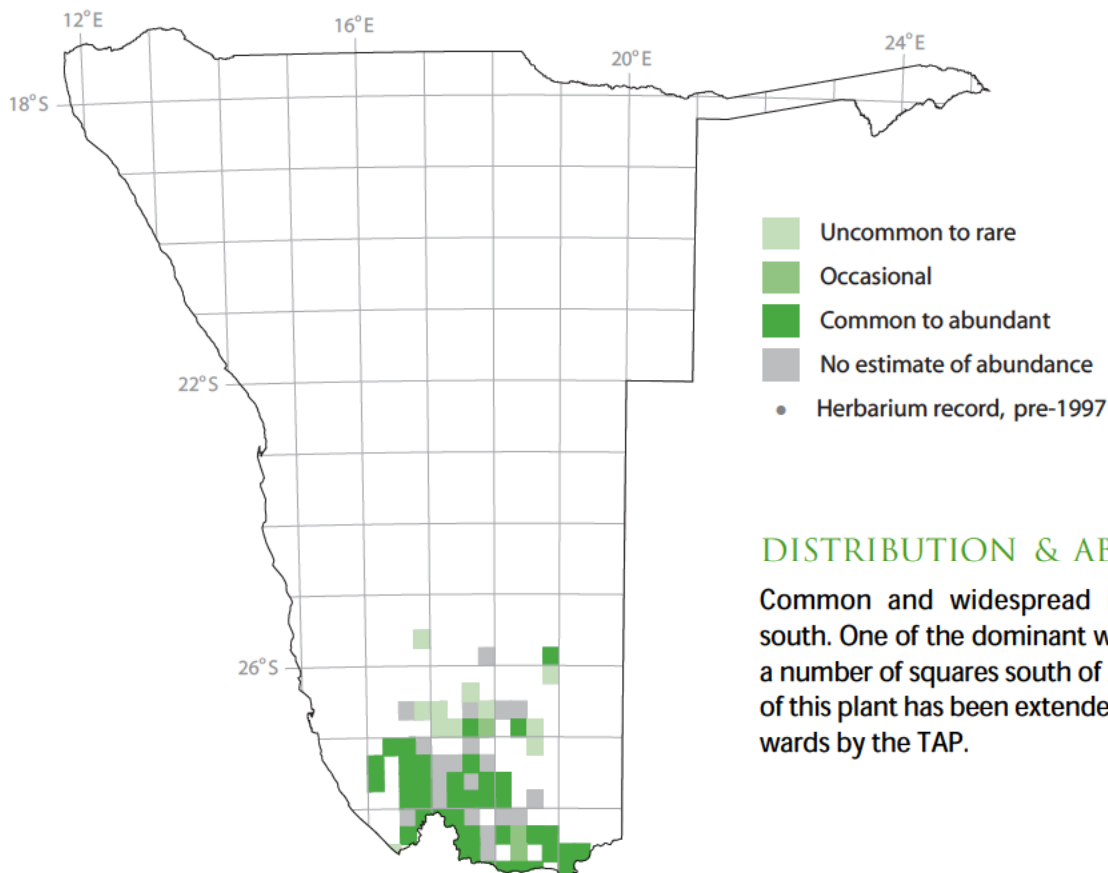
Sisyndite spartea

Desert Broom

Besembos, woestynbesem (A)

[173 records from 74 (7%) squares]

Many-stemmed, lax, **often untidy shrub**. BARK **young branchlets green, hairless**. LEAVES small and inconspicuous, evenly compound, spirally arranged; 1–5 sessile leaflet pairs; leaflets obovate, **hairless**; apex blunt, base tapering. FLOWERS solitary, bright yellow, c. 45 mm in diameter. FRUIT a yellow capsule with bristly covering.

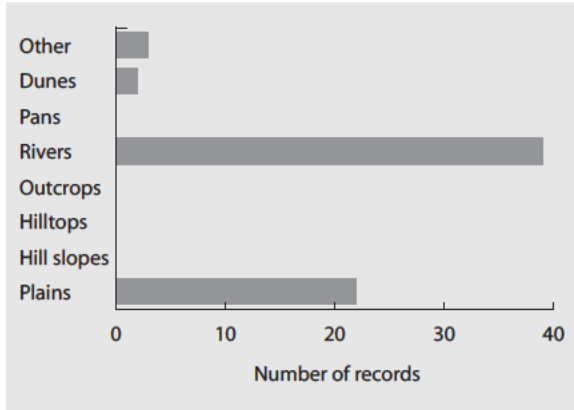


DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Common and widespread in the central-south. One of the dominant woody species in a number of squares south of 28° S. The range of this plant has been extended slightly northwards by the TAP.

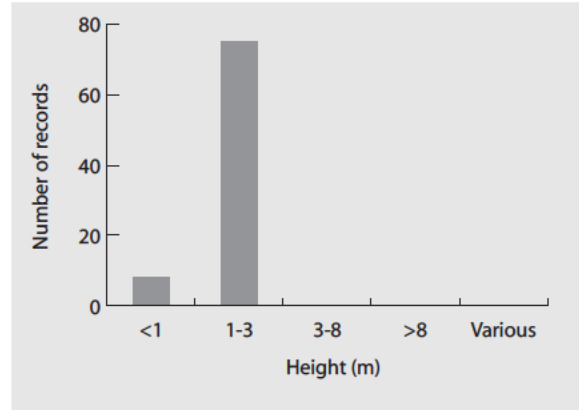
HABITAT

Mostly along dry rivers, but also on gravel plains and sometimes in kloofs; occasionally found on sandy plains or dunes; often along road verges.



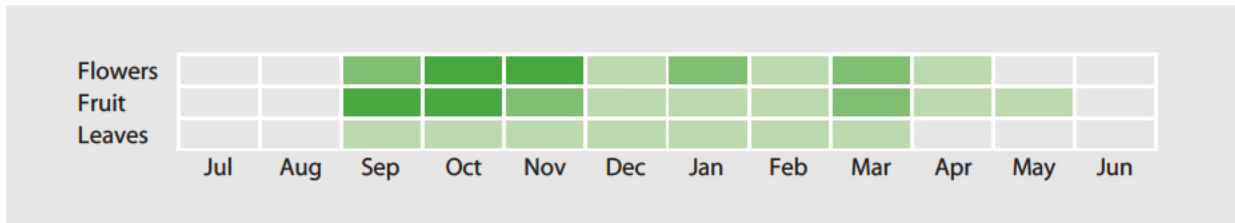
GROWTH FORM

A shrub in the 1–3-m height class.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS variable from September to April, or sometimes later. FRUIT September to May. LEAVES September to March.



GENERAL

Roots used medicinally. With its attractive flowers and fruit, this plant has horticultural potential.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.



Sisyndite spartea, flowers and fruit,
C. Mannheimer