

Steganotaenia *araliacea*

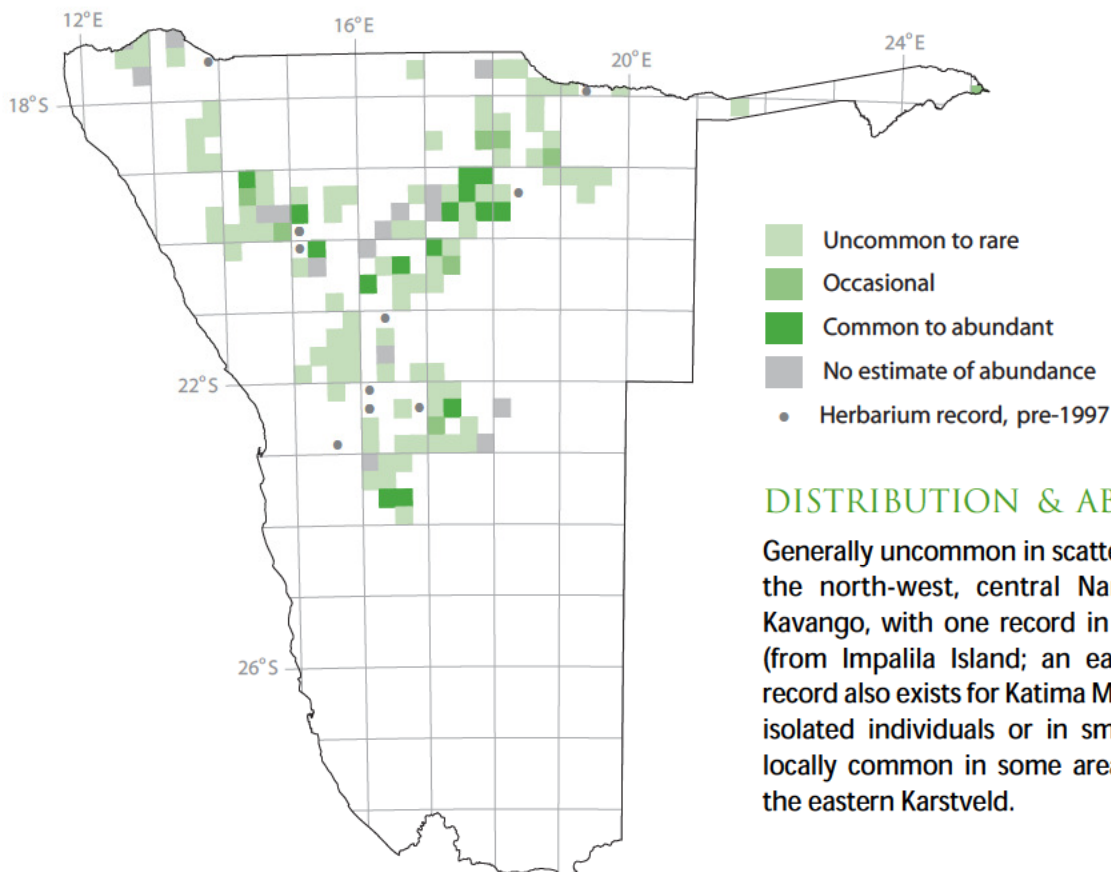
Carrot-tree

Omutiwonyoka (H); kaab (K); muketo (L); mufuramvhuu (Rk, Rum)

[303 records from 132 (12%) squares]



Deciduous tree. BARK smooth, greenish-yellow, **flaking off in white, papery pieces.** LEAVES **compound**, large; petiole long with broad base; leaflets ovate to elliptic; **both surfaces bright-green, thin-textured, pendulous; margin coarsely toothed with each tooth ending in a fine hair-like point; apex pointed.** FLOWERS greenish-white, in large compound umbels. FRUIT flattened, obovate, up to 13 x 8 mm; two-winged.

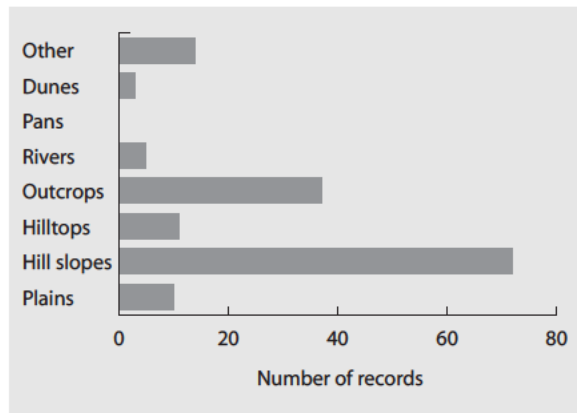


DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Generally uncommon in scattered localities in the north-west, central Namibia and the Kavango, with one record in eastern Caprivi (from Impalila Island; an earlier herbarium record also exists for Katima Mulilo). Usually as isolated individuals or in small groups, but locally common in some areas, especially in the eastern Karstveld.

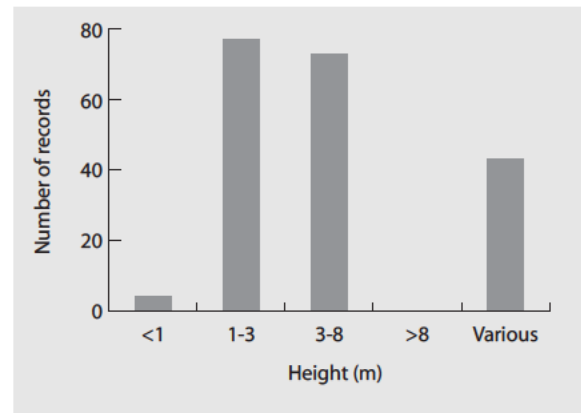
HABITAT

Mainly found on steep, rocky hill slopes, kloofs and rocky outcrops; occasionally on sandy plains. Grows on dolomite, granite, basalt, mica schist and sandstone.



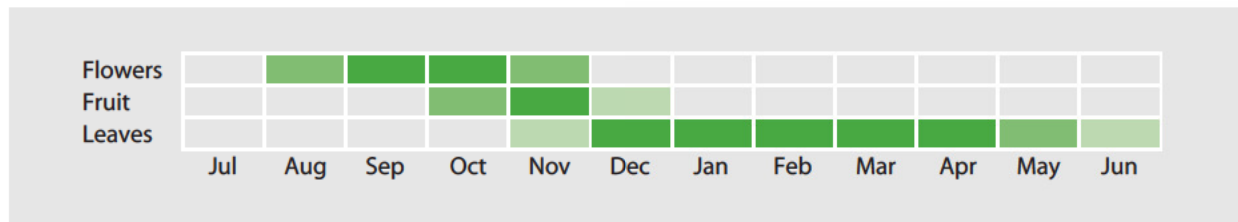
GROWTH FORM

Mainly recorded as trees (65% of records) in the 3–8-m height class (46% of records). Shrubs generally in the 1–3-m height class (24%). There were also a number of observations (25%) of stands with plants of various heights.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS August to November. **FRUIT** October to December. **LEAVES** totally absent in winter, with young leaves November to March.



GENERAL

'Omutiwonyoka', the Otjiherero common name, is a name given to several species of dense trees which might harbour snakes in their lush foliage. The leaves are eaten by kudu, rock dassies and insects; the trunks are also gnawed by animals. The roots and bark are used medicinally; also of cultural significance in Kaokoveld. This species is of horticultural potential as it is attractive, grows easily from seed and is fairly drought- and cold-tolerant. It is sensitive to frost, however.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.



Steganothaenia araliacea, W. Friederich