Morella serrata

= Myrica serrata

Lance-leaved Waxberry

[3 records from 2 squares]

Shrub or small tree. LEAVES simple, narrowly elliptic, aromatic; yellowish-green with conspicuous golden glands below. FLOWERS minute, without petals or sepals. FRUIT a spherical berry, c. 4–6 mm in diameter; navy-blue to black with a whitish, waxy coating when ripe.

Recorded as common on the river bank in the Popa Falls/Mahango Game Reserve area of the Okavango River (1821BA) and on the Kwando River (1723CB) by only two atlassers, suggesting that it was either confused with something else by other atlassers or it is only very locally common (22 sheets were submitted from eleven atlassers for 1821BA). Earlier herbarium records are from both of these squares plus one more in eastern Caprivi. A shrub or tree, mostly in the 1–3 m height class, but also over 3 m. Flowers recorded in December, January and July. Fruit recorded in January, March, April and June.

CELTIDACEAE

Trema orientalis Pigeonwood

[2 records]

Deciduous shrub or tree up to 4.5 m high. LEAVES simple, narrowly ovate, twice as long as broad; dark green and rough above; pale green with silver down below. FLOWERS small, green; petals absent. FRUIT a round, black berry.



Earlier herbarium records are from a locality in the north-west – near a spring in the Kapupa River on the south side of the Otjihipa Mountains (1712BC) – and from a number of localities in the Erongo Mountains, but most often from farm Ameib in 2115DC. Was found on Ameib by the Botanical Society, but no atlassers visited any of the other farms on which this species was previously recorded. Thus, it is possible that it still occurs on these farms.

A single specimen (SWA3/165) from the Omuvanda Mountains, just south of the Kunene River (1713AA) was brought in as the Tree Atlas was going to press.

Assessed as 'least concern' according to the latest IUCN criteria (Loots 2005).

In strict taxonomic order, these two families should come after Salicaceae.