

Trichilia emetica

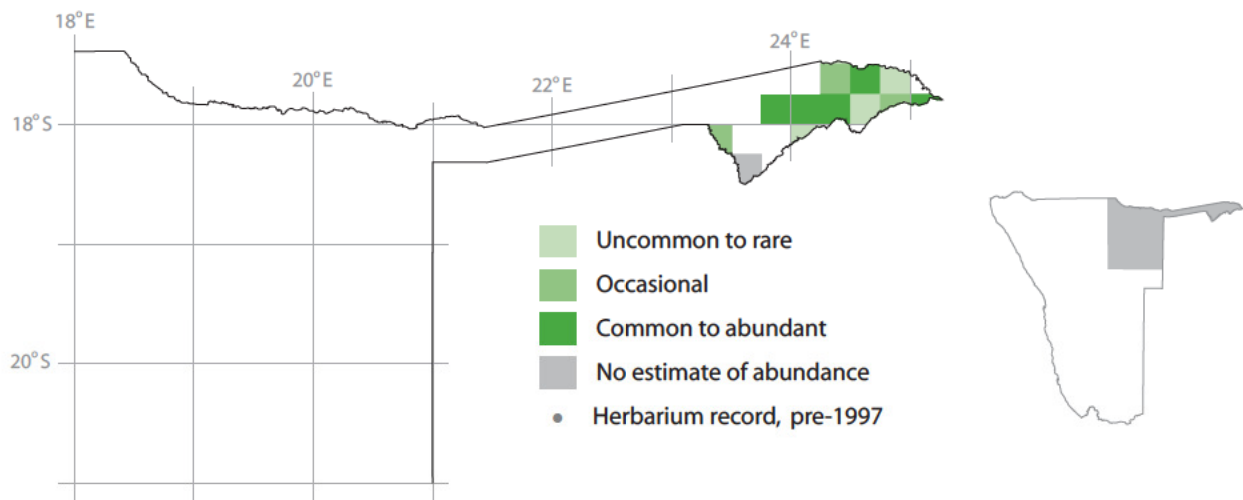
Musikili

Natal mahogany (E);
rooiesenhout (A)

[28 records from 14 (1%) squares]

A large, evergreen tree with a spreading, rounded crown often reaching the ground. BARK dark; smooth or rough. LEAVES compound, up to 500 mm long; leaflets elliptic, dark, glossy green above; pale greenish-brown with dense, short, curly hairs below. FLOWERS small, tubular, creamy-green, in dense clusters. FRUIT a round, creamy-green-brown capsule, downy, up to 30 mm in diameter; splitting into two or three valves; with a distinctly thickened neck connecting the base to the stalk. SEED black, almost totally covered by a scarlet aril.

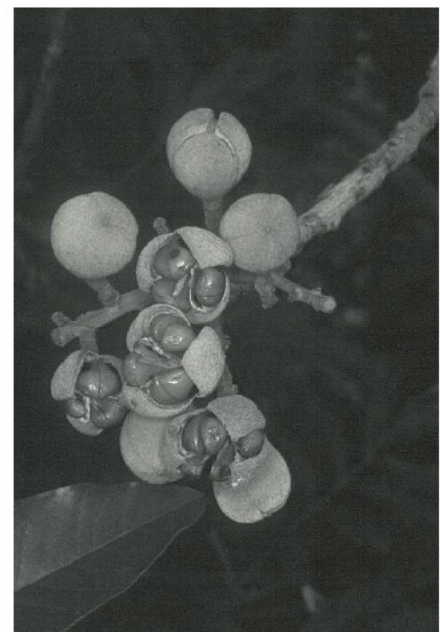
Flowers and fruit are conspicuous.



DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

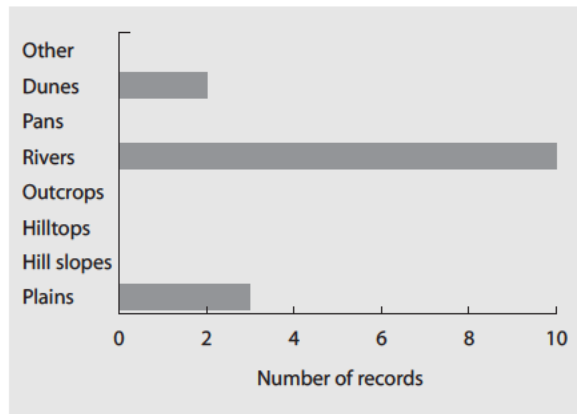
Fairly widespread in eastern Caprivi. Common to uncommon.

Trichilia emetica, Left: leaves. Right: fruit.
Opposite: tree. All B. Curtis



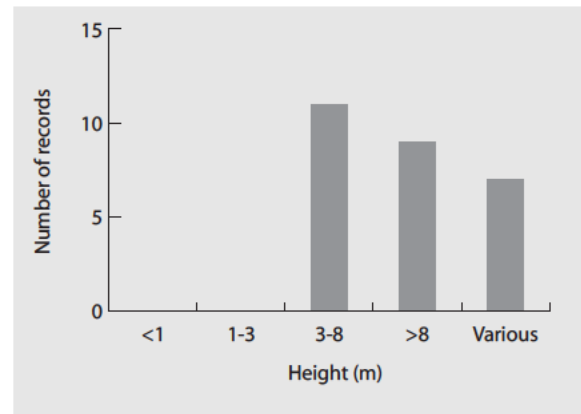
HABITAT

Mostly sand hummocks on floodplains; also on river banks and sandy plains.



GROWTH FORM

A tree up to 8 m and more in height. Young plants noted in some squares.



ANNUAL CYCLE

No observations were made from June to August, one each in September and October. FLOWERS only recorded in November and December. FRUIT September to April. LEAVES Evergreen, with young leaves in November.

GENERAL

A beautiful, shady tree, often planted at homesteads and around other buildings in both Caprivi and along the Okavango River.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

