## Ministry of Environment and Tourism Directorate of Forestry



Forest Inventory Report

# WOODY RESOURCES OF EAST AND SOUTH TSUMKWE, OTJINENE AND OKAKARARA DISTRICTS

National Forest Inventory Project 28 April 1997

Compiled by K. Korhonen, V. Juola, M. Chakanga

### **Table of Contents**

| 1.  | BACKGROUND  | 3            |
|-----|---|--------------|
| 2.  | GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA   | 4            |
| 3.  | INVENTORY RESULTS   | 4<br>5<br>10 |
| 4.  | RELIABILITY OF THE RESULTS  | .5           |
| 5.  | CONCLUSIONS FOR MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND RESEARCH                                | .6           |
|     | Tables  |              |
| Tal | ole 1: Number of measured trees by species                                      | 4            |
| Tal | ole 2: Area by Vegetation Structure Types                                       | 5            |
| Tal | ole 3: Area (in ha and %) by dominant species                                   | 6            |
| Tal | ole 4: Occurrence (in %) of the first dominant and second dominant species      |              |
| Tal | ole 5: Percentage of crown cover classes by dominant species                    | 9            |
| Tal | ole 6: Number of stems and volume per hectare and for the whole area by species | .0           |
| Tal | ole 7: Number of plots, variance, standard deviation and mean volume by stratum | .1           |
| Tak | ole 8: Maximum diameter by species  | . 1          |
| Tal | ole 9: Distribution of trees in damage classes                                  | .2           |
| Tak | ole 10: Number of plots in which a species was found                            | .3           |

#### 1. BACKGROUND

The forest inventory area covers the eastern and southern parts of Tsumkwe district, the northern parts of Otjinene district and the eastern parts of Okakarara districts.

The woody resources were estimated using stratified systematic plot sampling. Vegetation Maps produced by the Directorate of Forestry were used to stratify the area into Forest land and bushland/savanna. Plots were located on 21 randomly selected vegetation mapsheets at a scale of 1:50 000. A number of plots were located on each one of these map sheets according to vegetation strata. A total of 117 plots were measured.

All trees, at least 5 cm DBH, inside the circular plot were measured. The plot consisted of three circles. The size of the plot depended on the size of the tree so that the radius of the plot is 30 m for trees with breast height diameter (DBH) more than 45 cm; 20 m for trees with 20 < DBH < 45 cm; and 10 m for trees with 5 < DBH < 20 cm. Diameter, location, species, crown class, quality, length and quality of possible saw log were measured. Height, diameter of canopy, crown height, damages and phenology were recorded for each tree in the plot.

Additionally, shrubs and regeneration were measured using two 3.99 m radius circular plots. Woody plants with diameter at breast height less than 5 cm were recorded on the shrub and regeneration field form and bigger woody plants on the sample tree field forms. Several variables describing the site, soil and tree cover were observed for each plot. Coverage of grasses and herbs were measured, also. All the measurements are described in more detail in the field instructions (Field Instructions Western Bushmanland 1996).

(An additional data of felled sample trees were collected for constructing volume and biomass functions for Burkea africana, Combretum collinum, Lonchocarpus nelsii, Pterocarpus angolensis and Terminalia sericea (Field Instructions: Collection of...). For other species (that were not so abundant in the data) one of these functions was applied for estimating volumes and biomass. The estimated volume and biomass functions are in Appendix 2) All the felled sample trees were collected in Inventory area No. 1: West Bushmanland. No trees were felled in East and South Tsumkwe, Otjinene and Okakarara districts.

#### 2. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The area belongs to the Forest Savanna and Woodland and Camelthorn Savanna vegetation zones in the classification of

Giess (National Atlas of South West Africa). Soil is always sandy. The following land forms are present: dunes, dune valleys, dry river beds and sandy substrates. Annual rainfall is 300-400 mm. Elevation is 1100-1300 m over sea level.

The total land area is 8 212 447 ha. According to the Vegetation Maps (Directorate of Forestry) 591 521 ha is classified as forest (trees higher than 5 m), 7 598 346 ha as savanna (trees less than 5 m), 22 580 ha as grassland, cultivated land etc. The area for forest and savanna is 7 189 867 ha.

#### 3. INVENTORY RESULTS

#### 3.1 Measured data

A total of 117 plots were measured. According to the vegetation maps, 40 of the plots were on the Forest stratum and 77 on the Savanna/Bushland stratum. Thus, each plot in the Forest stratum represents 14 788.03 ha and each plot in the Savanna/Bushland stratum represents 98 679.82 ha. A total of 375 trees with diameter at least 5 cm were measured on the plots. The number of measured trees by species is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of measured trees by species

| Species                         | No. of all trees                              | % of all trees |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Acacia mellifera                | 116   | 30.93          |
| Terminalia sericea              | 72  | 19.20          |
| Terminalia prunioides           | 32  | 8.53           |
| Combretum psidioides (dinteri)  | 24  | 6.40           |
| Acacia karroo                   | 19  | 5.07           |
| Burkea africana                 | 18  | 4,80           |
| Acacia hebeclada (hebeclada)    | ************************ <b>*************</b> | 4.80           |
| Acacia erioloba                 | 18  | 4.80           |
| Lonchocarpus nelsii             | 7   | 1.87           |
| Acacia fleckii                  | 7   | 1.87           |
| Schinziophyton rautanenii       | 6   | 1.60           |
| Guibourtia coleosperma          | 6   | 1.60           |
| Combretum collinum              | . 6   | 1.60           |
| Acacia reficiens (reficiens)    | 6   | 1.60           |
| Pterocarpus angolensis          | 4   | 1.07           |
| Combretum zeyheri               | 3   | 0.80           |
| Albizia anthelmintica           | . 3   | 0.80           |
| Ochna pulchra                   | 2   | 0.53           |
| Boscia albitrunca               | 2   | 0.53           |
| Acacia tortilis (heteracantha)  | 2   | 0.53           |
| Ozoroa paniculosa               | 1   | 0.27           |
| Croton gratismus (subgratismus) | 1   | 0.27           |
| Commiphora africana             |   | 0.27           |
| Acacia senegal                  | 1   | 0.27           |
| Total                           | 375   | 100.00         |

The most frequent species in the data set were Acacia melliferal16, Terminalia sericea 72, Terminalia prunioides 32, Combretum psidioides (dinteri) 24, Acacia karroo 19, Acacia erioloba 18, Acacia hebeclada (hebeclada)18, and Burkea africana

18. There was very little Pterocarpus angolensis, only 4 trees.

#### 3.2 Area estimates

The Vegetation Structural Type were derived for each vegetation unit from measured sample plots. The derivation of the Vegetation Structural Type is based on the measured tree height, shrub and grass cover and on measured coverage of each of these layers (Edwards 1983). The criteria are listed in Appendix 3.

Table 2. Area by Vegetation Structure Types

| Vegetation Structure Type | Area in hectares | Area in % |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Low Bushland              | 1239587.05       | 15.1      |
| Tall Closed Shrubland     | 1198676.66       | 14.6      |
| Low Closed Shrubland      | 972708.98        | 11.9      |
| Low Open Woodland         | 822158.24        | 10.0      |
| Low Open Shrubland        | 622333.55        | 7.6       |
| Low Closed Woodland       | 567544.18        | 6.9       |
| Short Open Woodland       | 487329.80        | 6.0       |
| Short Closed Woodland     | 462101.31        | 5.6       |
| Short Thicket             | 442390.58        | 5.4       |
| Tall Open Shrubland       | 310726.30        | 3.8       |
| Low Thicket               | 258717.07        | 3.2       |
| Short Bushland            | 217786.92        | 2.7       |
| Bare land                 | 214815.73        | 2.6       |
| High Closed Shrubland     | 151632.28        | 1.9       |
| Short Closed Grassland    | 148385.79        | 1.8       |
| Tall Closed Woodland      | 26284.10         | 0.3       |
| High Open Shrubland       | 22950.00         | 0.3       |
| Herbland                  | 11869.25         | 0.1       |
| Tall Closed Grassland     | 11869.25         | 0.1       |
| Total                     | 8189867.05       | 100.0     |

The area and percentage of different Vegetation Structural Types are in Table 2. Low Bushland (definition: Shrub cover > 10% and > 1 m high, and tree cover < 10%, and tree height < 5 m) covers 15.1% of the forest and savanna/bushland area. Tall Closed Shrubland (definition: Tree cover < 0.1% and shrub cover > 0.1% and Shrub height 1-2 m) covers 14.6%. Low Closed Shrubland (definition: Tree cover <0.1%, shrub cover > 10% and shrub height < 1 m) covers 11.9%. Low Open Woodland (definition: Tree cover 1-10%, and tree height < 5 m) covers 10%.

Low Bushland, Tall Closed Shrubland and Low Closed Shrubland together cover about 41.6% of the area.

The crown coverage of each species was calculated for each plot. The dominant and second dominant species were derived from these crown coverage estimates. Table 3 shows the areas and percentages of dominant species. Terminalia sericea is the most common dominant species. It is found on 1655158 ha or 20.2% of the area followed by Acacia mellifera as the second most common species on 679 145 ha or 8.3% of the area.

Table 3: Area (in ha and %) by dominant species

| Species Name                   | Area in hectares | Area in % |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| No trees                       | 3665967.80       | 44.8      |
| Terminalia sericea             | 1655158.24       | 20.2      |
| Acacia mellifera               | 679145.16        | 8.3       |
| Burkea africana                | 436022.47        | 5.3       |
| Combretum psidioides (dinteri) | 316897.36        | 3,9       |
| Terminalia prunioides          | 312105.78        | 3.8       |
| Lonchocarpus nelsii            | 310726.30        | 3.8       |
| Acacia fleckii                 | 164485.03        | 2.0       |
| Acacia reficiens (reficiens)   | 151595.95        | 1.9       |
| Acacia karroo                  | 146371.95        | 1.8       |
| Combretum collinum             | 131664.28        | 1.6       |
| Acacia erioloba                | 98895.28         | 1.2       |
| Acacia hebeclada (hebeclada)   | 44744.92         | 0.5       |
| Boscia albitrunca              | 31020.00         | 0.4       |
| Acacia tortilis (heteracantha) | 29234.92         | 0.4       |
| Guibourtia coleosperma         | 13744.92         | 0.2       |
| Pterocarpus angolensis         | 1043.35          | 0.0       |
| Schinziophyton rautanenii      | 1043.35          | 0.0       |
| Total                          | 8189867.05       | 100.0     |

Table 4 shows the occurrence of second dominant species for each dominant species. For example, if Acacia hebeclada is the dominant species most often the second species is Acacia erioloba and vice versa. When A. Hebeclada is the dominant species then A. Erioloba is the second dominant species in 65% of the A. Hebeclada dominated forest and savanna. But, when A. Erioloba is the dominant species then A. Karroo is the second dominant species in 63% of cases.

When B. africana is the dominant species then C. psidioides/C. zeyheri are the second dominant species

in 30% of the B. africana dominated forest and savanna. And, when C. psidioides is the dominant species then B. africana is the second dominant species in 49% of cases.

Table 5 shows the distribution of crown cover classes by dominant species. Terminalia sericea dominated areas are most often in the cover classes 0-5%, 5-10%, 10-15% and 15-20%. Most of the Acacia mellifera dominated areas are in cover classes 5-10%, 10-15%, 15-20%, 20-25%, 40-45% and 45-50%. For other dominant species the crown cover is in most cases markedly lower, less than 20-25%.

Table 4: Occurrence (in %) of the first dominant and second dominant species. in the table are percentages of the area of the first dominant species. Figures

Second Dominant Species

| Terminalia prunioides | Schinziophyton<br>rautanenii | Pterocarpus angolensis | No trees | Lonchocarpus nelsii | Guibourtia coleosperma | Combretum psidioides (dinteri) | Combretum collinum | Burkea africana | Boscia albitrunca | Acacia tortilis (heteracantha) | Acacia reficiens<br>(reficiens) | Acacia mellifera | Acacia karroo | Acacia hebeclada<br>(hebeclada) | Acacia fleckii | Acacia erioloba | First Dominant<br>Species   | A. crioloba                 |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---|-----------------------------|
|                       |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    |                 |                   |                                |                                 | 23               |               | 65                              |                |                 |   | вьа А. Каггоо               |
| 50                    |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    |                 | 50                |                                | 87                              |                  | 10            | 35                              |                | 63              |   | oo A<br>meliifera           |
| 0                     |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    |                 | 0                 |                                | 7                               |                  | 0             |                                 |                | 30              |   | A. reficiens<br>(reficiens) |
| 42                    |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    |                 |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 |                |                 |   | A. senegal                  |
|                       |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    |                 |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 | 80             |                 |   | A.<br>anthelmintica         |
|                       | 100                          |                        |          |                     |                        | 49                             |                    |                 |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 |                |                 | TOTAL COLUMN TO THE COLUMN TO | B. africana                 |
|                       |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    |                 |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 |                |                 |   | C. collinum                 |
|                       |                              |                        |          |                     | 100                    |                                |                    | 30              |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 | 2              |                 |   | C. psidioides<br>(dinteri)  |
|                       |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    | 30              |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 |                |                 |   | C. zeyheri                  |
|                       |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    | 3               |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 |                |                 |   | G. coleosperma              |
|                       |                              |                        |          |                     |                        |                                |                    |                 |                   | 100                            |                                 |                  |               |                                 |                |                 |   | L. nelsii                   |
| 8                     |                              |                        | 100      | 100                 |                        | 50                             | 100                | 36              | 50                |                                | 13                              | 77               | 90            |                                 | 18             | رن<br>بن        |   | No trees                    |
|                       | -                            | 100                    |          |                     |                        |                                |                    |                 |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 |                |                 |   | S. rautanenii               |
|                       |                              | )                      |          |                     |                        |                                |                    | 3               |                   |                                |                                 |                  |               |                                 |                | 4               |   | T. sericea                  |
| 100                   | 100                          | 100                    | 100      | 100                 | 100                    | 100                            | 100                | 100             | 100               | 100                            | 100                             | 100              | 100           | 100                             | 100            | 100             |   | Total %                     |

Table 5: Percentage of crown cover by dominant species

| Species Acacia erioloba Acacia fleckii | 0.6      | 5-10<br>96<br>2 | <b>10-15</b> | 15-20 | 20-25    | 25-30 30-35<br>4 | 30-35 | 35-40 | 40-45 |    | 45-50 |
|--|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------|----------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|----|-------|
| Acacia fleckii                         | <u>ಹ</u> | N               | 8            |       |          |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| Acacia hebeclada (hebeclada)           |          |                 |              | හි    |          |                  |       | ଖ     |       |    |       |
| Acacia karroo                          |          |                 | 9            |       |          | 6                |       |       |       |    |       |
| Acacia mellifera                       |          | N               | _            | တ     | 23       |                  |       |       |       | 8  | 46 19 |
| Acacia reficiens (reficiens)           | 3        |                 |              |       |          |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| Acacia tortilis (heteracantha)         | 3        |                 |              |       |          |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| Boscia albitrunca                      | 3        |                 |              |       |          |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| Burkea africana                        | 67       | ω               | မ            |       |          |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| Combretum collinum                     |          | 8               |              |       |          |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| Combretum psidioides (dinteri)         | 46       | හු              | 4            |       |          |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| Guibourtia coleosperma                 |          |                 |              |       | <u> </u> |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| Lonchocarpus nelsii                    | 18       |                 |              |       |          |                  |       |       |       |    |       |
| No trees                               | 128      |                 |              |       |          | ~                |       |       | :     | i  |       |
| Pterocarpus angolensis                 |          |                 |              |       |          |                  | 8     |       | :     |    |       |
| Schinziophyton rautanenii              |          |                 |              |       |          |                  |       | 8     |       |    |       |
| Terminalia prunioides                  |          |                 |              |       |          |                  |       |       |       | 42 | 42    |
| Terminalia sericea                     | 42       | 6               | 14           | 4     |          |                  |       |       |       | :  |       |

Crown cover class in % by species

#### 3.3 Volumes and number of stems

Total volumes, mean volumes, total number of stems and average number of stems per hectare for the whole area by species are in Table 6. Only living trees are included in the table. The most common species is Acacia mellifera with an average of 44.27 trees per ha followed by Terminalia sericea with 19.83 trees per ha, Terminalia prunioides with 8.47 trees per ha and Combretum psidioides (dinteri) 7.75 trees per ha.

Acacia mellifera has also the highest mean volume of 1 m3/ha and total volume of 8174.24 m3. The second highest mean volume is for Terminalia prunioides (0.77 m3/ha) followed by Terminalia sericea (0.56 m3/ha). Totally, there are more than 826 million trees in the inventory area.

Table 6: Number of stems and volume per hectare and for the whole area by species

| Species                        | Total vol (1000 m3) | mean vol (m3/ha) | No. of trees (1000) | No. of trees/ha |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Acacia mellifera               | 8174.24             | 1.00             | 362597.61           | 44.27           |
| Terminalia prunioides          | 6334.27             | 0.77             | 69342.90            | 8.47            |
| Terminalia sericea             | 4573.76             | 0.56             | 162391.54           | 19.83           |
| Burkea africana                | 3039.89             | 0.37             | 30231.83            | 3.69            |
| Combretum psidioides (dinteri) | 2757.32             | 0.34             | 63472.80            | 7.75            |
| Lonchocarpus nelsii            | 2452.99             | 0.30             | 22347.50            | 2.73            |
| Albizia anthelmintica          | 1317.65             | 0.16             | 12573.02            | 1.54            |
| Acacia karroo                  | 1308.16             | 0.16             | 26166.90            | 3.20            |
| Acacia erioloba                | 1088.89             | 0.13             | 10100.20            | 1.23            |
| Acacia fleckii                 | 1082.92             | 0.13             | 6283.44             | 0.77            |
| Acacia senegal                 | 499.15              | 0.06             | 4191.01             | 0.51            |
| Ochna pulchra                  | 432.46              | 0.05             | 5382.88             | 0.66            |
| Acacia hebeclada (hebeclada)   | 296.76              | 0.04             | 14129.11            | 1.73            |
| Guibourtia coleosperma         | 278.17              | 0.03             | 609.79              | 0.07            |
| Acacia reficiens (reficiens)   | 266.79              | 0.03             | 14074.55            | 1.72            |
| Combretum zeyheri              | 210.49              | 0.03             | 9169.58             | 1.12            |
| Boscia albitrunca              | 152.37:             | 0.02             | 617.12              | 0.08            |
| Combretum collinum             | 133.00              | 0.02             | 10579,61            | 1.29            |
| Schinziophyton rautanenii      | 59.00               | 0.01             | 49.82               | 0.01            |
| Acacia tortilis (heteracantha) | 44.48               | 0.01             | 1861.15             | 0.23            |
| Pterocarpus angolensis         | 14.88               | 0.00             | 53.51               | 0.01            |
| Commiphora africana            | 8.01                | 0.00             | 3.69                | 0.00            |
| Ozoroa paniculosa              | 0.56                | 0.00             | 33.21               | 0.00            |
| Total                          | 34526.21            | 4.22             | 826262.78           | 100.89          |

Table 7 shows the number of plots, variance of vol/ha, standard deviation and mean vol/ha by sampling stratum. Out of 117 plots 25 were in T. sericea dominated

bushlands, 13 in A. mellifera bushlands and 11 in mixed forest stratum. Average vol/ha is highest in Fgu stratum, due to the huge size of G. coleosperma trees, followed by Fbu and Ftp strata respectively. Table 7: Number of plots, variance, standard deviation and mean volume by stratum

| Sampling stratum | No. of clusters | Var Of vha | Std   | Avg vha |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|-------|---------|
| FAc              | 3               | 31.53      | 5.61  | 7.10    |
| FAe              | 5               | 63.90      | 7.99  | 8.38    |
| FAf              | 4               | 1.60       | 1.26  | 0.63    |
| FAt              | 3               | 0.11       | 0.33  | 0.19    |
| FBu              | 4               | 173.39     | 13.17 | 13.25   |
| FGu              | 2               | 5.72       | 2.39  | 45.59   |
| FMx              | 11:             | 9.67       | 3.11  | 2.42    |
| FTp              | 4               | 92.72      | 9.63  | 11.81   |
| FTs              | 4               | 23.11      | 4.81  | 5.47    |
| SAf              | 3               | 0.00       | 0.00  | 0.00    |
| SAh              | 2               | 0.00       | 0.00  | 0.00    |
| SAm              | 13              | 5.07       | 2.25  | 1.79    |
| SAt-Ae           | 3               | 71.56      | 8,46  | 7.17    |
| SBp              | 2               | 0.00       | 0.00  | 0.00    |
| SCa              | 2               | 0.00       | 0.00  | 0.00    |
| SDc              | 4               | 0.00       | 0.00  | 0.00    |
| SMx-Ac           | 21              | 47.86      | 6.92  | 4.51    |
| STp              | 2               | 39.42      | 6.28  | 4.44    |
| STs              | 25              | 41.45      | 6.44  | 3.92    |
| Total            | 117             |            |       |         |

Table 8: Maximum diameter by species

| Species                        | Max_Diam |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Acacia erioloba                | 67.2     |
| Guibourtia coleosperma         | 52.0     |
| Commiphora africana            | 51.4     |
| Acacia karroo                  | 49.6     |
| Pterocarpus angolensis         | 48.3     |
| Schinziophyton rautanenii      | 48.2     |
| Combretum psidioides (dinteri) | 38.7     |
| Terminalia prunioides          | 34.4     |
| Burkea africana                | 33.4     |
| Terminalia sericea             | 32.0     |
| Boscia albitrunca              | 27.7     |
| Lonchocarpus nelsii            | 27.2     |
| Acacia fleckii                 | 25.7     |

| Acacia reficiens (reficiens)    | 21.9 |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Ochna pulchra                   | 17.6 |
| Albizia anthelmintica           | 16.5 |
| Acacia mellifera                | 14.6 |
| Acacia senegal                  | 14.2 |
| Acacia hebeclada (hebeclada)    | 14.1 |
| Combretum zeyheri               | 10.7 |
| Combretum collinum              | 10.0 |
| Acacia tortilis (heteracantha)  | 9.9  |
| Croton gratismus (subgratismus) | 7.7  |
| Ozoroa paniculosa               | 6.7  |

Table 8 shows the maximum diameter measured for each species. The biggest tree diameters occurred in A. erioloba, G. coleosperma, C. africana, A. karroo, P. angolensis and C. psidioides (dinteri) species. However, the number of trees per hectare (Table 6) for each one of these species is 1.23, 0.07, 0.00, 3.20, 0.01, and 7.75 respectively. Except for C. psidioides (dinteri) there are very, very few large trees of theses species in the area.

#### 3.4 Damages

Damages were recorded both at stand level (for the sampled vegetation unit) and at tree level (for the measured sample trees). There is no damage observed on 76.72% of the area. Mild fire damage is about 1.61% of the area. Most of the damages were mild caused by mammals on 15.44% of the area.

| Damage_1           | No damage | Mild  | Moderate | Total % |
|--------------------|-----------|-------|----------|---------|
| No damage observed | 76.72     |       |          | 76.72   |
| Forest fire        |           | 1.61  | 0.36     | 1.97    |
| Mammals            |           | 15.44 | 5.87     | 21.31   |
|                    |           |       |          | 100.00  |

Table 9: Distribution of trees in damage classes

#### 3.5. Species diversity

Tables 3 and 4 describe the occurrence of dominant species and also give an idea about the mixture of species. Table 6 gives a figure on the frequency of different species on the inventory area. An other measure for species diversity is the number of plots where each species was found. Table 10 shows this result for both trees less than 5 cm in diameter (including shrubs) and trees larger than 5 cm. Totally, 24 different species were recorded on the tree field form and 41 species on the regeneration and shrub field form. For trees greater than 5 m in Terminalia sericea, Acacia mellifera, Combretum psidioides (dinteri) and Burkea africana were recorded on 19.6%, 10.2%, 9.4% and 8.5% of the 117 plots respectively. There are species, like senegal, Acacia tortilis several Acacia (heteracantha), gratismus Combretum zeyheri, Croton (subgratismus), and Ozoroa paniculosa, that were found only on 1 plot each.

On the other hand for trees less than 5 m height, Terminalia sericea, Bauhinia petersiana, Grewia avellana, Commiphora

angolensis and Acacia mellifera were recorded on 41%, 28.2%, 26.5%, 23.1% and 12% respectively.

Table 11 shows the plot number and number of species recorded per plot. The number of species ranged from 0-13.

| SpeciesName                                   | DBH < 5 cm         | DBH > 5 cm   |
|---|--------------------|--|
| Acacia ataxacantha                            | 13                 | DD11 > 3 GH  |
| Acacia erioloba                               | 5                  | 6  |
| Acacia erologa<br>Acacia fleckii              | 16                 | 3  |
| Acacia hebeclada (hebeclada)                  | 5.                 | 2  |
| Acacia riebeciada (riebeciada)                | 1.                 | and a state of the second and are the second as the second |
| Acacia karroo                                 | - 1                | 5  |
| Acacia mellifera                              | 14                 | 12   |
| Acacia meilitera Acacia reficiens (reficiens) | 1:                 | 4  |
|   | :                  |  |
| Acacia senegal                                |                    |  |
| Acacia tortilis (heteracantha)                |                    |  |
| Acacia tortilis (spirocarpa)                  |                    |  |
| Albizia anthelmintica                         | 10                 | 2  |
| Baphia massaiensis                            | 18 <sub>3</sub>    |  |
| Bauhia petersiana                             | 33                 |  |
| Boscia albitrunca                             | ,                  | 2<br>10  |
| Burkea africana                               | .:                 |  |
| Catophractes alexandri                        |                    |  |
| Combretum collinum                            | <u></u>            | 3  |
| Combretum engleri                             | 5                  |  |
| Combretum psidioides (dinteri)                | 17                 | 11   |
| Combretum psidioides (psidioides)             |                    | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,  |
| Combretum zeyheri                             | 14                 | 3  |
| Commiphora africana                           | 15                 |  |
| Commiphora angolensis                         | 27.                |  |
| Croton gratismus (subgratismus)               | 13                 | 1  |
| Dichapetalum cymosum                          | 15                 |  |
| Dichrostachys cinerea                         | 4                  |  |
| Dichrostachys cinerea (setulosa)              | <u>:</u> <u>10</u> |  |
| Grewia avellana                               | <u>:</u>           |  |
| Grewia bicolor                                | 9_                 |  |
| Grewia retinervis                             | <u>; 28</u>        |  |
| Guibourtia coleosperma                        | 1                  | 2  |
| Lonchocarpus nelsii                           | 22_                | 4  |
| Mundulea sericea                              | 6_                 |  |
| Ochna pulchra                                 | 15                 | 2  |
| Ozoroa paniculosa                             | :<br>              | 1  |
| Pterocarpus angolensis                        | · 2_               | 2  |
| Rhigoszum brevispinosum                       | 4                  |  |
| Rhus tenuinervis                              | 2                  |  |
| Schinziophyton rautanenii                     | <u> </u>           | 2  |
| Tarchonanthus camphoratus                     | 1_                 |  |
| Terminalia prunioides                         | <u> </u>           | 4  |
| Terminalia sericea                            | 48_                | 23   |
| Ziziphus mucronata                            | 5                  |  |

Table 10: Number of plots in which a species was found

#### 4. RELIABILITY OF THE RESULTS

The following error sources are always present in sampling based forest inventories: sampling error, measurement error including coding error, errors in data processing and errors in models used for e.g. volume estimation.

In this work, specific attention was paid to guarantee good quality of the field data. Field personnel were trained for measurements and plant identification. Specimens were taken and checked by late Dr. Müller for all found tree and shrub species. Several cross checkings were done to find out possible errors and inconsistences in the data. Data processing programs were carefully designed and double checked.

The applied volume functions are probably the main source of errors. The size of the material collected for constructing the functions was moderate. These error sources affect the volume estimates but not, for example, the estimates of stem numbers and size class distributions.

The magnitude of sampling error was estimated with the formula of stratified random sampling using sample plots as sampling units. The applied sampling method was not random but the formula should be more or less valid since the distance between plots was high. Probably the formula over estimates the sampling error.

For the mean volume estimate of all species the sampling error was  $0.799~\text{m}^3/\text{ha}$  (i.e. 20.32~%). This means that the true mean volume is between 3.1~and  $4.7~\text{m}^3/\text{ha}$  with the probability of 68%.

#### 5. CONCLUSIONS FOR MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND RESEARCH

The inventory data indicate that there is no commercial timber resources in this area. Most of the area is dominated by Terminalia sericea, Acacia mellifera, Burkea africana, Combretum psidioides (dinteri), Terminalia prunioides and Lonchocarpus nelsii (Table 4). Where ever commercial trees such as P. angolensis occur in this area, they must be left standing. For commercial forestry the area does not contain a significant amount of exploitable timber. But, It would be wise to conserve the Savanna/bushlands for various purposes such as building materials, carbon sequestration, prevension of soil erosion and animal fodder.

The inventory project will continue in the other parts of Namibia. The data to be collected will give unique possibilities for further studies on the Namibian woodland and savanna ecosystems. Information on the species composition (such as Table 4) on different sites as well as on the species diversity will be easily obtained by analysing the data.

#### References

National Atlas of South West Africa (Namibia). Editor: J.H. van der Merwe. ISBN 0797200207.

Edwards, D. 1983. A broad-scale structural classification of vegetation for practical purposes. Both alia 14:705-712.

Field instructions: collection of sample tree data for biomass and volume tables. National Forest Inventory Project. Directorate of Forestry, Namibia.

Field Instructions Western Bushmanland 1996. National Forest Inventory Project. Directorate of Forestry, Namibia.

Geldenhuys, C.J. 1990. Stock enumeration and management planning of the woodlands in Kavango. Translated from the 1971 edition in Afrikaans. CSIR/Division of Forest Science and Technology. RSA. 27 pp.

List of appendices

- 1. Biomass and volume functions
- 2. Vegetation Structural Types
- 3. Location of mapsheets sampled

#### Appendix 1. Biomass and volume functions.

Function (1) was found to describe well the relation between volume and diameter for Burkea africana and Terminalia sericea. For Combretum, Lonchocarpus and Pterocarpus, Function 2 was applied.

$$v = e (a_0 + a_1/d)$$
 (1)

$$v/d^2 = a_0 + a_1 * d + a_2 * d^2$$
 (2)

where v = volume, dm<sup>3</sup> d = diameter at breast height, cm

The parameter estimates for the volume functions are as follows

Species  $a_0$ a<sub>1</sub>  $a_2$ Burkea africana 8.607856 -58.71163 Combretum collinum 0.0180767 -0.0000905 0.131382 Lonchocarpus nelsii 0.396588 0.0077865 Pterocarpus angolensis 0.667061 -0.008408 0.0002143 Terminalia sericea 7.158742 -39.232256

The volume is converted to biomass by multiplying with the basic density. The measured basic densities varied according to tree species and stem diameter as follows.

Pterocarpus angolensis 0.598, if d < 30 cm, 0.525, otherwise

Terminalia sericea 0.754, if d < 20 cm, 0.616, otherwise

The biomass of branches is estimated with Function (3).

$$B5/B = a_0 + a_1/d (3)$$

where B5 = biomass of branches less than 5 cm in diameter

B = total biomass

d = breast height diameter of the tree, cm

The parameter estimates are as follows.

Species a<sub>1</sub>  $a_0$ B. africana 0.0468932 2.9833058 C. collinum 0.0956231 1.3644359 L. nelsii 0.0713440 3.5334357 P. angolensis 0.0344962 2.9576978 T. sericea 0.1000000 4.5794900

The biomass of branches can be converted to volume by dividing it with following averaged basic densities of branches.

Species Conversion factor

B. africana 0.7881
C. collinum 0.8366
L. netsii 0.9229
P. Angolensis 0.6141
T. sericea 0.6627

#### Appendix 2. Vegetational Structural Types (Edwards 1983).

```
1a Tree cover > 0.1%
  2a shrub cover < 10%, if > 1m high
  forest and woodland
    3a tree cover > 75%
                                                                   forest
       4a tree height > 20m
                                                              high forest
       4b tree height 11-20m
  tall forest
       4c tree height 5-10m
  short forest
                                                               low forest
      4d tree height < 5m
    3b free cover 11 - 75%
                                                          closed woodland
      5a tree height > 20m
  high closed woodland
      5b tree height 11-20m
  tall closed woodland
      Sc tree height 5-10m
  short closed woodland
       5d tree height < 5m
                                                      low closed woodland
    3c tree cover 1 - 10%
                                                            open woodland
       6a tree height > 20m
  high open woodland
      6b tree height 11-20m
  tall open woodland
      6c free height 5-10m
  short open woodland
                                                       low open woodland
      6d tree height < 5m
                                                          sparse woodland
    3d tree cover < 1%
      5a tree height > 20m
  high sparse woodland
      5b tree height 11-20m
  tall sparse woodland
      5c tree height 5-10m
  short sparse woodland
                                                      low sparse woodland
       5d tree height < 5m
  2b shrub cover > 10% and > 1 m high
                                                     thicket and bushland
                                                                  thicket
       8a tree cover > 10%
         9a tree height > 5m
  short thicket
                                                              low thicket
        9b tree height < 5m
                                                                 bushland
       8b tree cover < 10%
        10a tree height > 5m
  short bushland
                                                             low bushland
         10b tree height < 5m
1b Tree cover < 0.1%
  11a shrub cover >0.1%
  shrubland
                                                         closed shrubland
    12a shrub cover > 10%
                                                    high closed shrubland
      13a shrub height > 2m
      13b shrub height 1-2m
  tall closed shrubland
      13c shrub height < 1m
  low closed shrubland
                                                           open shrubland
    12b shrub cover 1 - 10%
                                                      high open shrubland
      14a shrub height > 2m
      14b shrub height 1-2m
  tall open shrubland
      14c shrub height < 1m
  low open shrubland
                                                           open shrubland
```

12c shrub cover < 1%

15a shrub height > 2m high sparse shrubland
15b shrub height 1-2m
tall sparse shrubland
15c shrub height < 1m
low sparse shrubland
11b shrub cover < 0.1 % grassland and herbland

#### Appendix 3: Acknowledgements

The successful completion of the Forest Inventory Exercise in East tsumkwe, Otjinene and Okakarara Districts was a result of the cooperative efforts of many individuals within the Directorate of Forestry and other institutions. The key personnel involved in the forest inventory consisted of directly Directorate of Forestry and Government of Finland staff.

#### Directorate of Forestry

Moses Chakanga Dennis Sikabongo Immanuel Pieters Nickey Orub Eunice Ndaudonya Ndapanda Kanime Thomas Shilunga Philip Shipa Kunombara Mbai Gerhardt Boois Clints Mwilima Ferdinand Kaveta

Project Manager Field Team Leader Field team Leader Field Team Leader

#### Government of Finland

Veli Juola

Kari Korhonnen Forest Inventory Advisor/Consultant Forest Inventory Field Officer

Thanks also to Directorate of Forestry Regional and District Offices staff for their various assistance.