

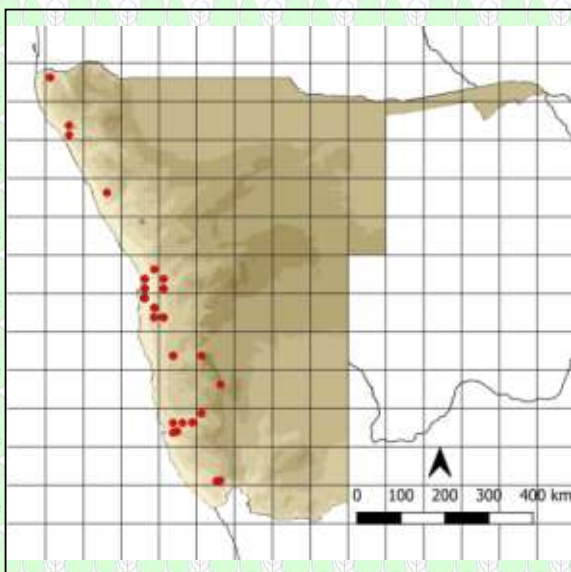
**CUCURBITACEAE*****Acanthosicyos horridus* Welw. ex Hook.f**, Gen. Pl. 1: 824 (1867)**TYPE:** from Angola**Legal Status:** F**Common Names:** botterpitte, butterpits (Afrikaans), nara (All), !nara, butternut, butterpips, naras, narras (English), !nara.b/s, !narab/-i, #goa-garibeb, aore/nara/nomab, botterpitte (Khoekhoegowab), mnara, naia, omungaraha (Otjiherero)**Ecology:** Found in gravelly plains and in the sand dunes of mostly dry river beds where subsurface water is available.

Photo: Herta Kolberg



Photo: W. Giess



Photo: W. Giess



Compiled by Herta Kolberg and Sofia Amakali, Dec 2023



Photo: Herta Kolberg



Photo: Herta Kolberg

Description: perennial shrub; 1 - 4 m high; stems tangled, longitudinally striped, bright lime green, deeply grooved, many flowers per stem, some fascicled; spiny branches, spines paired, up to 2 cm long, alternate on branches; leaves modified into spines; sap clear; distinctive pungent smell when cut; flowers yellow-green, male and female flowers on separate plants; fruit a subglobose melon up to 20 cm in diameter, covered with spiny protuberances, ripening from green to pale yellow or pale orange-yellow, many-seeded; seed pale creamy

Distribution: Angola, Namibia, South Africa (Cape), South Tropical Africa

Uses: FOOD - Seeds, Fruit; FUELS - Fuelwood

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