**Acacia senegal**

Driefaakdoring

Three-hook acacia (E); Dreidornakazie (G); omuryangava (H); dus (K)

[449 records from 219 (20%) squares]

A V-shaped shrub. **Bark pale; greenish young growth. Thorns diagnostic, hooked and in threes** at each node. **Leaves medium-sized. Flowers in white spikes. Fruit a straw-coloured, papery pod, with a long tapering base and apex.**

May be confused with *A. erubescens* at a distance due to the shape and pale bark, but the thorns and pods distinguish the two species.

**Distribution & Abundance**

Occurs in a broad band across western Namibia as far south as 26° S, but absent from most of the extreme western Namib Desert. Generally uncommon to occasional in the north-west and Karstveld; common to abundant and occasionally dominant in central Namibia.
HABITAT
Mostly found on plains and hill slopes, also along river banks in the north-west. Grows on sand, gravel, stone and rocky substrates; occasionally on granite and calcrite.

GROWTH FORM
Usually a shrub (77% of records), but also a tree (23%). Mostly in the 1–3-m height category, but occasionally higher.

ANNUAL CYCLE
Flowers found from September to May, but mostly from October to January, with a peak in December; it appears that there is a second flowering in April/May, possibly as a result of late rains. Fruit whole year round, but mainly February to June, with ripe fruit recorded in July. Leaves essentially deciduous, but may be found the whole year round; most bare trees were recorded from June to November, with young leaves from September.

GENERAL
Leaves, flowers, bark and young branches are eaten by rhino, elephant, giraffe and springbok. This species produces a high quality, flavoured gum, which is harvested commercially in other countries. Branches are used for fencing stock enclosures. Sometimes the wood is used for making charcoal. May encroach where other bush has been cleared.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS
None recorded.