

Acacia arenaria

Omulyamenye

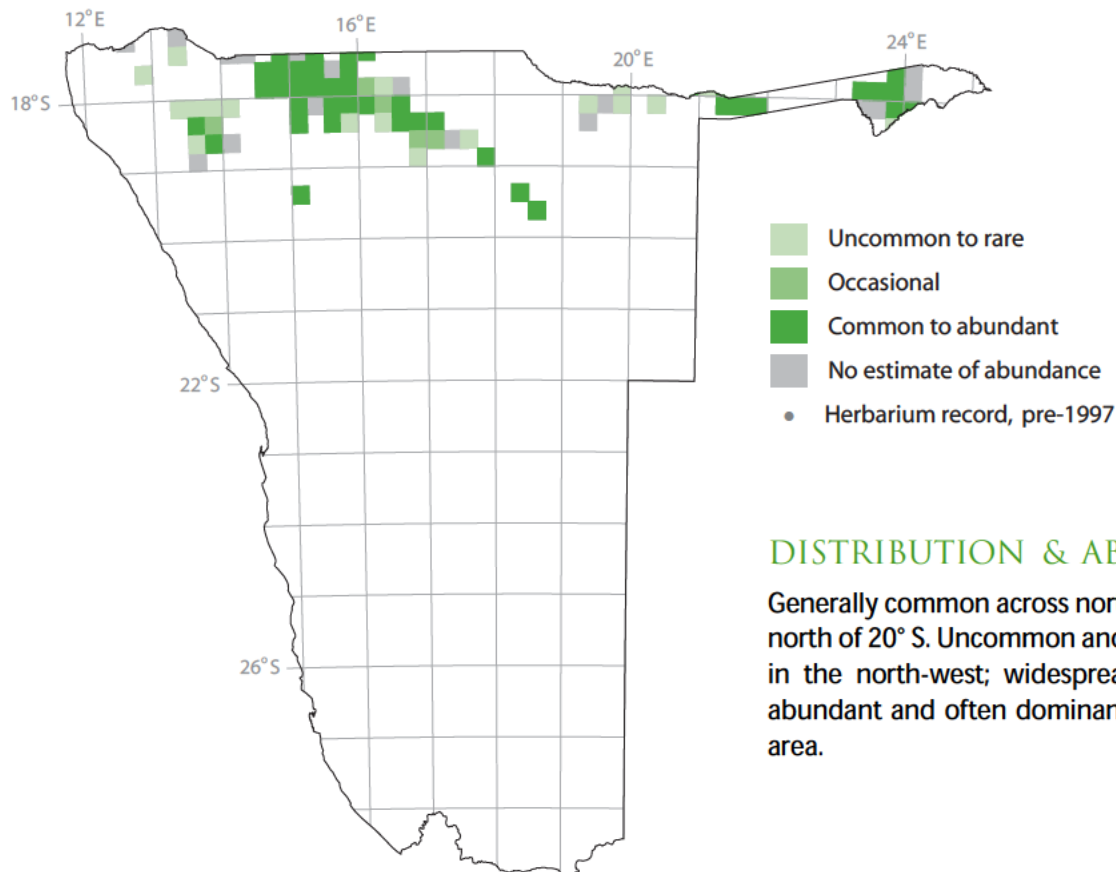
Sand acacia (E); sanddoring (A);
muparapara (T)

[142 records from 82 (8%) squares]



A **shrub** or small, untidy, multi-stemmed tree. **THORNS** **straight, slender**, often reddish. **LEAVES** **long, narrow, feathery, tapering, with many small leaflets**. **FLOWERS** in round heads; white or pale pink. **FRUIT** a **long, slender, curved pod**; pale to deep reddish-brown, thin valved, **splitting open when ripe**.

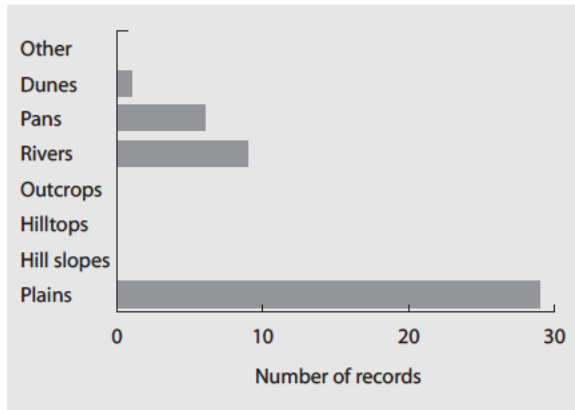
Flowers and fruit are obvious. *Acacia arenaria* appears to have been confused with *A. hereroensis* in the north, where the latter does not occur. Its common and specific names refer to the sandy habitat it prefers.

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE**

Generally common across northern Namibia – north of 20° S. Uncommon and often localized in the north-west; widespread, common to abundant and often dominant in the Cuvelai area.

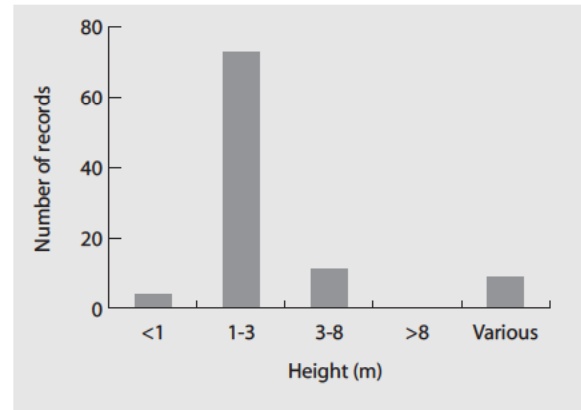
HABITAT

Mainly found on sandy plains, generally in woodland, sometimes within islands of trees on grassland, but also on floodplains and in pans or depressions, especially in the Cuvelai area. Found on rocky substrates, especially limestone, in the north-west and where it occurs south of 19° S.



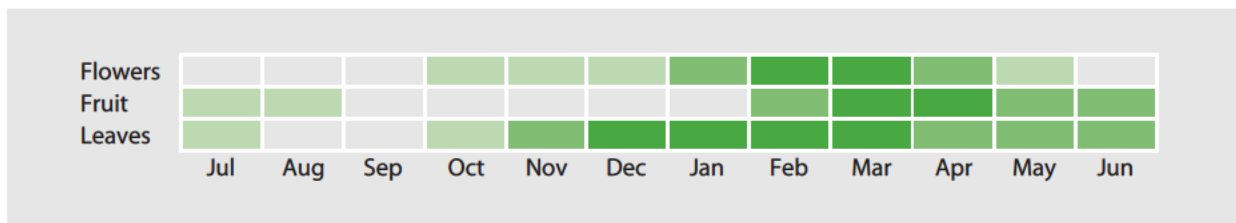
GROWTH FORM

Mainly a shrub in the 1–3-m height class; occasionally a shrub or tree in the 3–8-m height class, but never over 8 m. Generally gregarious; thicket-forming in places.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS mainly January to April, with the highest peak in March. FRUIT peaks in March and April, but also found in February, May and June and isolated records between July and January. LEAVES almost year-round with young leaves in October and old leaves in July; the data are too few to get an accurate picture of how many plants have leaves in winter.



GENERAL

Used for construction. The roots are used medicinally and the bark fibres for other traditional purposes. Browsed by stock. This shrub is often found in disturbed areas, especially along road verges where water collects in the rainy season.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.