

*Ceraria fruticulosa*

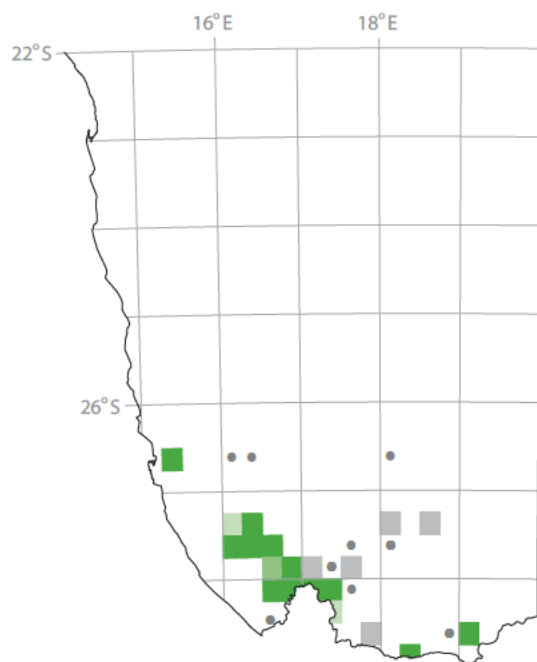
## Slender Ceraria

[32 records from 19 (2%) squares]



Shrub. BARK young branchlets flushed purplish-red with a waxy appearance, slender. LEAVES simple, spirally arranged or clustered on dwarf shoots, sessile; obovate to oblanceolate, 10–15 x 4–7 mm, 2–2.5 times longer than broad, thick and succulent; pale olive-green to blue-green, hairless. FLOWERS small, bright pink, mainly on younger stems. FRUIT small and inconspicuous.

Should not be confused with *C. namaquensis* due to the chunky, creamy-white stems of *C. namaquensis* and the slender, purplish stems of *C. fruticulosa*.



- Uncommon to rare
- Occasional
- Common to abundant
- No estimate of abundance
- Herbarium record, pre-1997

## DISTRIBUTION &amp; ABUNDANCE

Common to uncommon and scattered over a small area of southern and south-western Namibia. In some areas (in 2818CD) it is the most abundant woody species. Past herbarium records show the plant to be more widespread than TAP records.

## HABITAT

Mostly on rocky hill slopes and rocky outcrops.

## GROWTH FORM

Always a shrub, usually <1 m high, but occasionally more than 1 m. Seems to be taller towards the west, but there are too few records to say this conclusively.

## ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS mainly March, sometimes other months. FRUIT no records. LEAVES evergreen.

## CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Unless this plant was misidentified by atlasers or it is very localised in some squares, there has been fairly extensive die-off of this species.