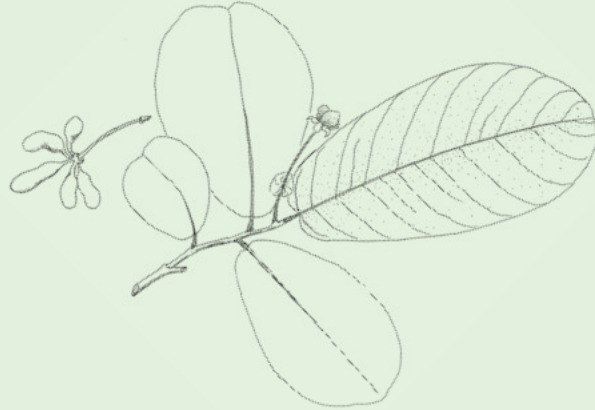


Friesodielsia obovata

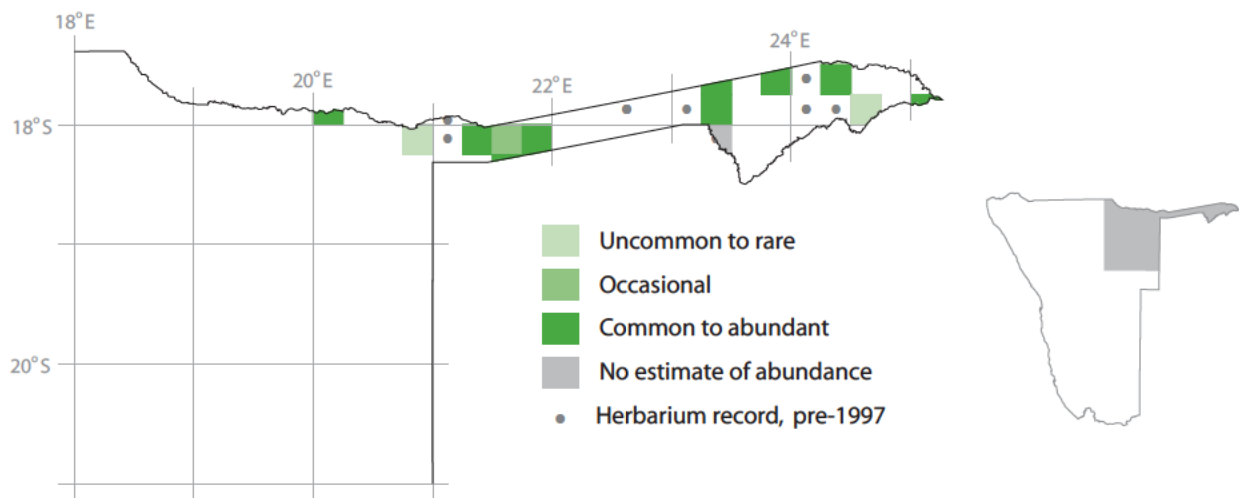
Mukondekonde

Dwaba-berry (E)

[31 records from 14 (1%) squares]



Straggling shrub or tree, with branches that often curl around other plants. BARK slightly sandpapery. LEAVES simple, thinly textured, **obovate to almost round**; dark green, almost hairless when mature; the terminal leaf with a slit in the tip. FLOWERS **solitary**, above the leaf axil or leaf-opposed; green-yellow; **bracts heart-shaped**, at base of flower stalks. FRUIT composed of **sausage-like** monocarps, each resembling a fat pod, **constricted between the seeds, red**. SEEDS black with a yellow, papery aril.



DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Common to locally abundant in a few localities along the eastern stretches of the Okavango River and in the Caprivi Region.

HABITAT

Most often on river banks and floodplains, but also on dunes, marshes and plains.

GROWTH FORM

Mostly a shrub 1–3 m high, occasionally a tree over 3 m (15% of records).

ANNUAL CYCLE

No observations for June to September. FLOWERS February and March, old flowers in May. FRUIT February to May. LEAVES October to May with bare trees recorded in October.

GENERAL

Browsed by cattle. Fruit edible.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Heavily impacted by human activities and overgrazing. Only found in protected places such as fenced-off areas or in thick, thorny bush that cannot be penetrated by cattle.