

*Grewia flavescens*

## Sandpaper Raisin

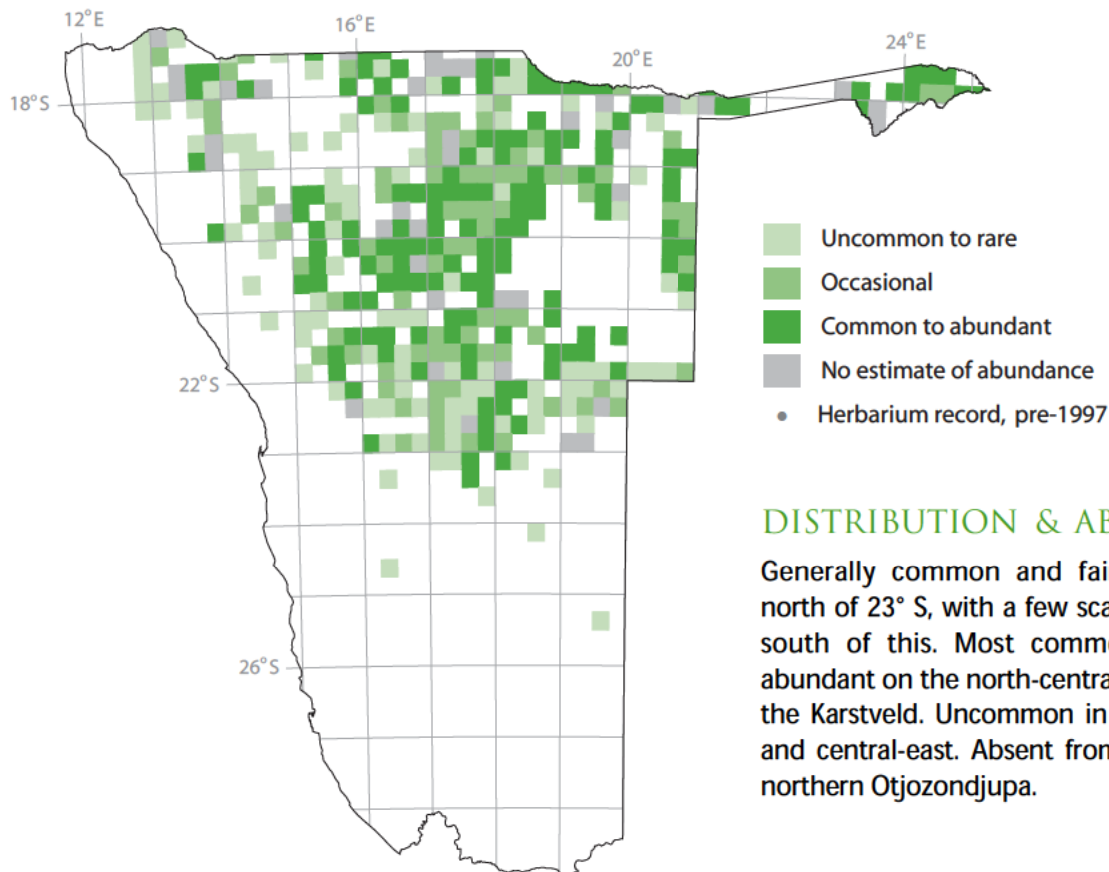
Skurwerosyntjie (A); Gelbgrüner Rosinenstrauch (G); omuhe (H); /goren/s (K); mumaka (L); rupundu (Rk, Rum)

[988 records from 387 (36%) squares]



Slender shrub, often climbing into other plants. STEMS **characteristically square, longitudinally grooved**. LEAVES **held horizontally**; light green; **both surfaces rough**. FLOWERS yellow, held erect, 2–3 per stalk. FRUIT round to bilobed (seldom four-lobed), up to 15 mm in diameter; yellow-brown, downy, shiny when ripe.

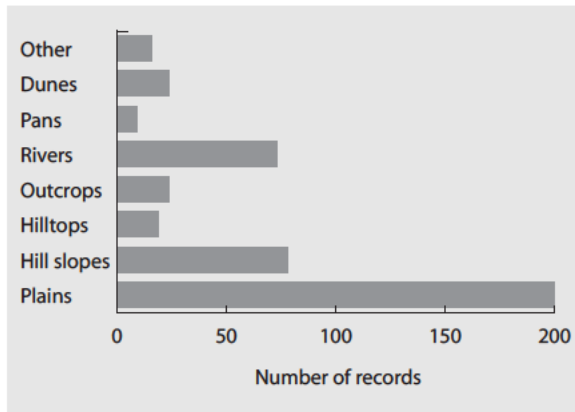
It may be confused with *G. olukondae*, which has much larger leaves, or *G. retinervis*, which generally has smaller leaves and a stem which is usually flattened and grooved on two sides and not four.

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE**

Generally common and fairly widespread north of 23° S, with a few scattered localities south of this. Most common and locally abundant on the north-central plateau and in the Karstveld. Uncommon in the north-west and central-east. Absent from large parts of northern Otjozondjupa.

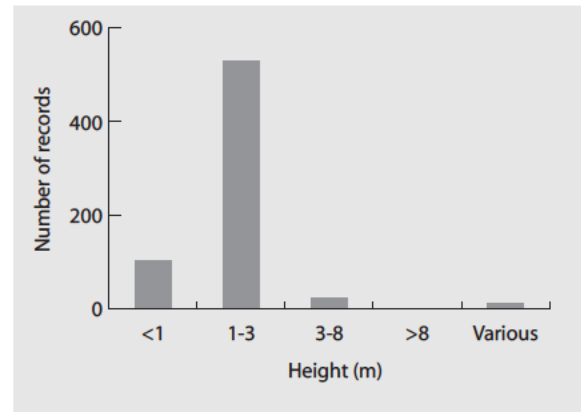
## HABITAT

In a wide variety of habitats, but mostly on plains, hillsides and along dry rivers. Also on dunes in the north-east. Found on sandy and rocky substrates, including granite, calcrete and schist.



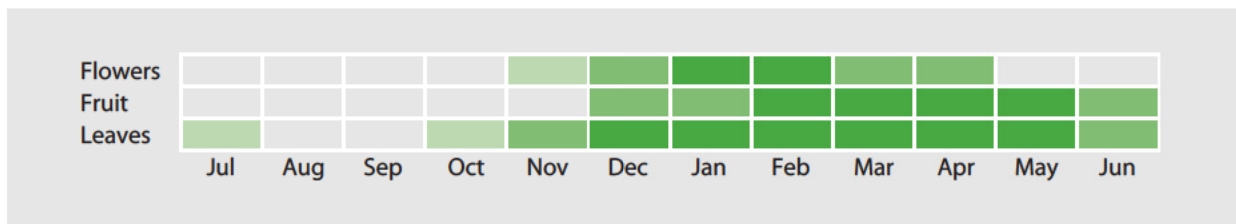
## GROWTH FORM

Generally a shrub up to 3 m high, occasionally over 3 m where it is climbing in other plants.



## ANNUAL CYCLE

**FLOWERS** November to April, with some observations throughout the year. **FRUIT** mainly December to June; old seeds on plants all year round. **LEAVES** November to June, with young leaves from August to December.



## GENERAL

The fruit are eaten by baboons and birds, as well as people, but are not very tasty. The leaves are browsed by game. The leaves, fruit and roots are used for medicinal purposes.

## CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None reported.



Square stem of *Grewia flavescens*,  
C. Mannheimer