

*Grewia retinervis*= *Grewia deserticola*

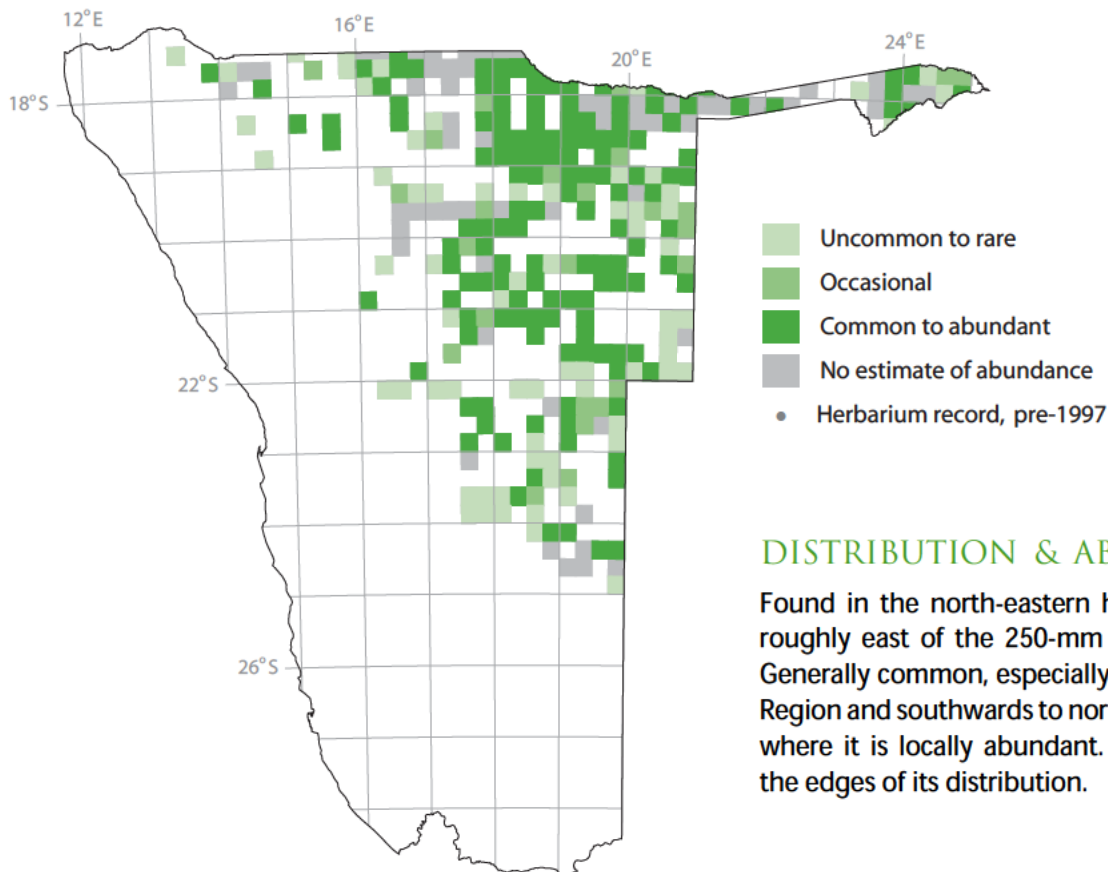
## Mupundu

Kalahari raisin (E); Kalahari-rosyntjie (A); omuhe (H); makopa (Rk)

[454 records from 297 (28%) squares]



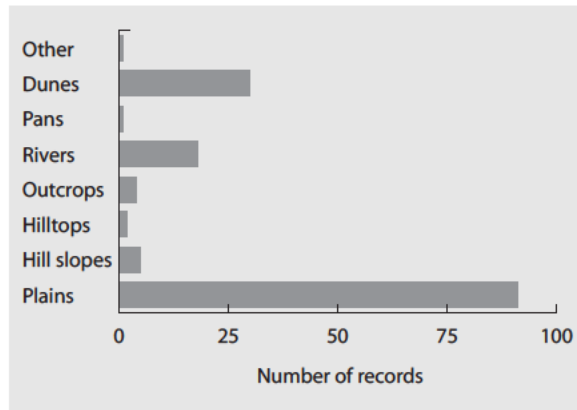
Deciduous shrub. BRANCHES as they get older, **become flattened on two** (or four) sides, sometimes grooved. LEAVES **usually fairly small, neat, stiff and somewhat rough**. FLOWERS yellow, axillary, 1–3 per stalk. FRUIT round to **pear-shaped**, never lobed; small, yellow-brown to orange-red when ripe. Larger-leaved individuals may be confused with *G. flavescens*.

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE**

Found in the north-eastern half of Namibia, roughly east of the 250-mm rainfall isohyet. Generally common, especially in the Kavango Region and southwards to northern Omaheke, where it is locally abundant. Uncommon on the edges of its distribution.

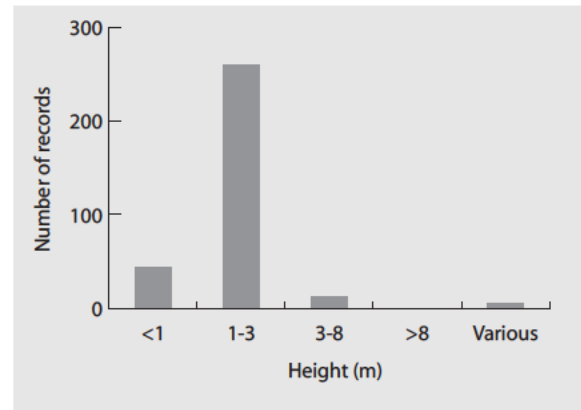
## HABITAT

Found in various habitats, but most often on sandy plains and dunes, also along rivers in the north-east.



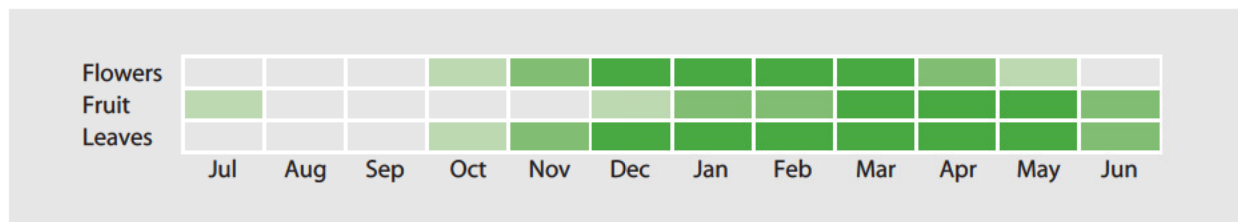
## GROWTH FORM

A shrub up to 3 m high, occasionally higher; sometimes climbing into other plants.



## ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS October to May, with a peak from December to March. FRUIT December to July, but mainly March to May. LEAVES October to June, with young leaves in October and November.



## GENERAL

The leaves are browsed and the fruit eaten by both animals and people. Roots are used medicinally; branchlets as toothbrushes. This is an attractive species that flowers profusely, and so is of horticultural potential. The village of Ivilivinzi in the Caprivi is apparently named after this plant.

## CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.

*Grewia retinervis*, leaves and fruit,  
C. Mannheimer

