

Gymnosporia linearis

= *Maytenus linearis*

Smalblaarpendoring

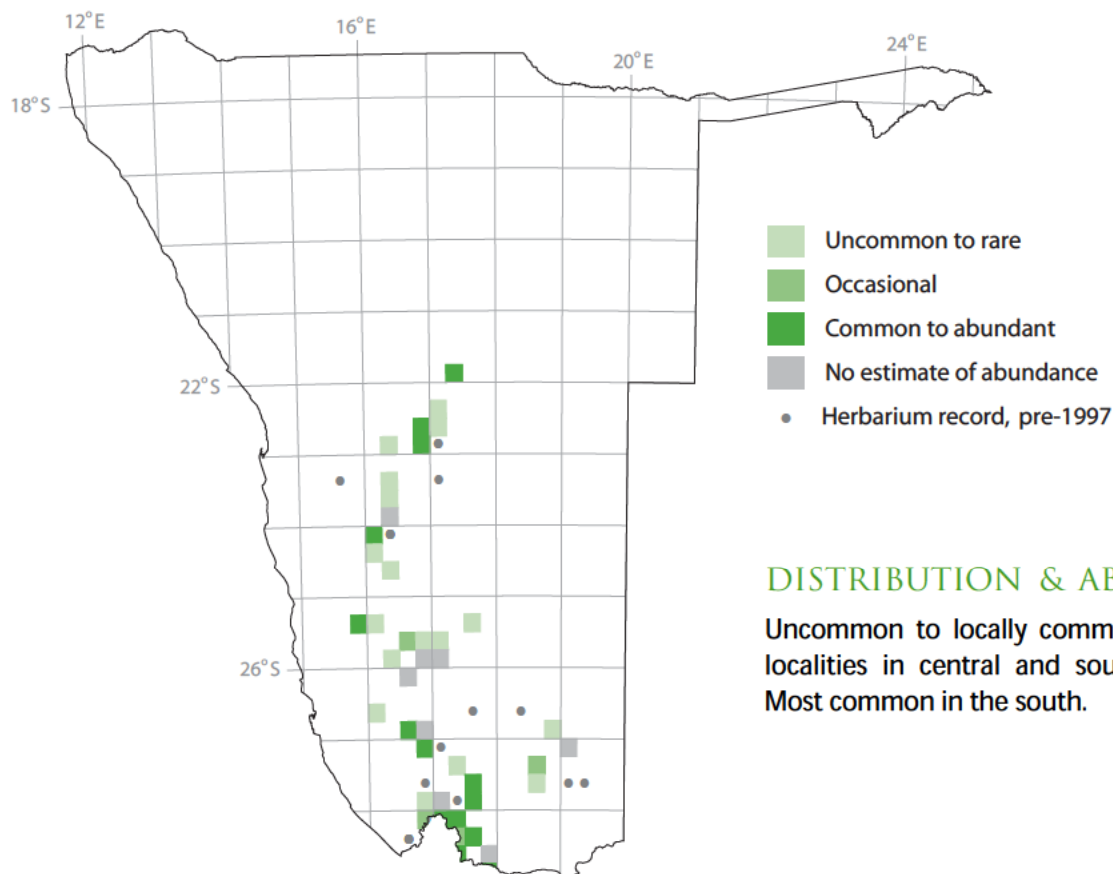
Narrow-leaved Spikethorn

[60 records from 43 (4%) squares]



Shrub or small tree, with an overall white appearance; **branches often drooping**. THORNS straight, 25–60 mm long, often with leaves and flowers. LEAVES simple, **narrow, linear**, 25–90 mm long; leathery, both surfaces grey-green, hairless; margin entire or **irregularly toothed**. FLOWERS in short sprays; small, yellow. FRUIT a capsule up to 7 mm in diameter, two-lobed. SEEDS usually covered with white aril.

Can be confused with *G. garipensis*. *Gymnosporia linearis* has leaves up to 12 mm wide, often with toothed margins; it also has a round capsule. *Gymnosporia garipensis* has leaves usually only up to 5 mm wide, with margins entire or almost so, and a capsule that is somewhat triangular in cross-section.

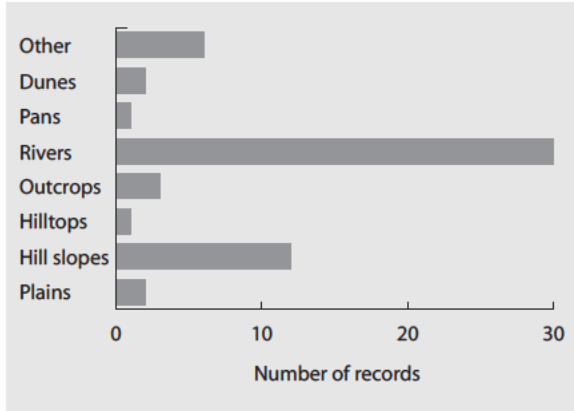


DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Uncommon to locally common in scattered localities in central and southern Namibia. Most common in the south.

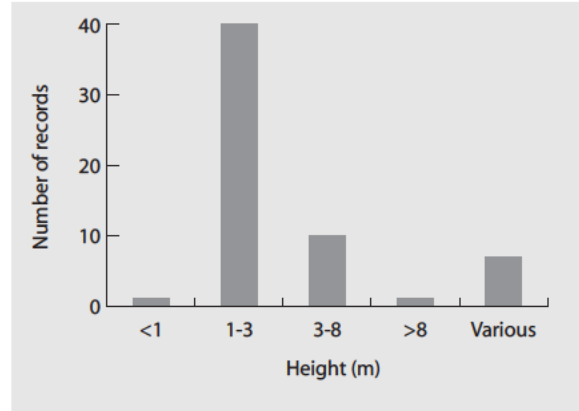
HABITAT

Various habitats, but mainly found along watercourses; on hill slopes in the central highlands.



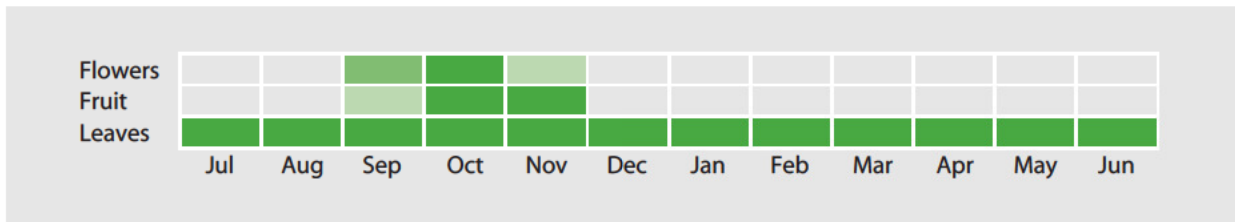
GROWTH FORM

Generally a shrub (77% of records) but sometimes a tree; mostly up to 3 m high, but also over 3 m, with one record over 8 m. Sometimes clammers in other trees or shrubs.



ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS September to November. FRUIT September to November. LEAVES apparently evergreen.



GENERAL

Leaves browsed by goats and game.

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

None recorded.



Gymnosporia linearis, leaves and fruit, C. Mannheimer