

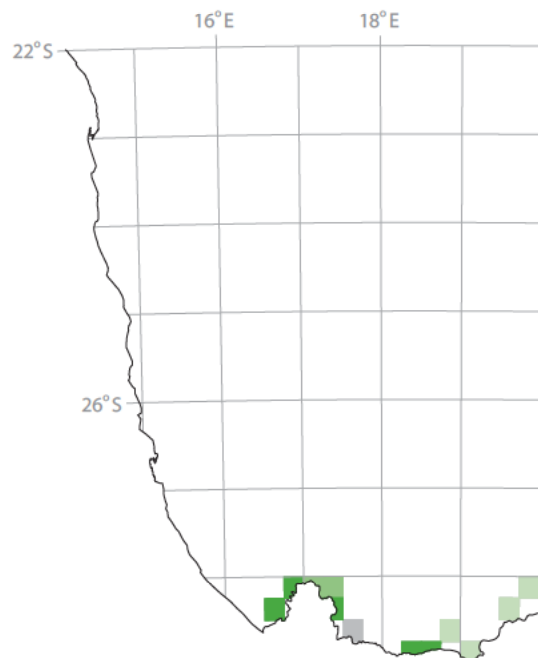
*Maerua gilgii*

## Rivierwitbos

River bush-cherry (E)

[21 records from 12 (1%) squares]

**Dense, many-stemmed, evergreen shrub** or small tree; **branches slender, often drooping**. BARK grey. LEAVES simple, spirally arranged; **oblong to elongate**, much longer than wide; both surfaces pale green; apex pointed with a fine hair-like tip. INFLORESCENCE a terminal or axillary spike. FLOWERS whitish-green to yellowish, petals absent; stamens very conspicuous. FRUIT spherical.



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

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE**

Confined to the vicinity of the Orange River, where it is common.

**HABITAT**

On river banks and floodplains. Also occasionally in dry washes, hill slopes and on plains.

**GROWTH FORM**

A shrub or shrubby tree, generally up to 3 m high, but sometimes higher.

**ANNUAL CYCLE**

Observations were only made in five months. FLOWERS September to November, but mostly in October. FRUIT October to December, and May. LEAVES apparently evergreen.

**CONSERVATION CONCERNS**

Very restricted along Orange River – could be affected by increased human activity there.