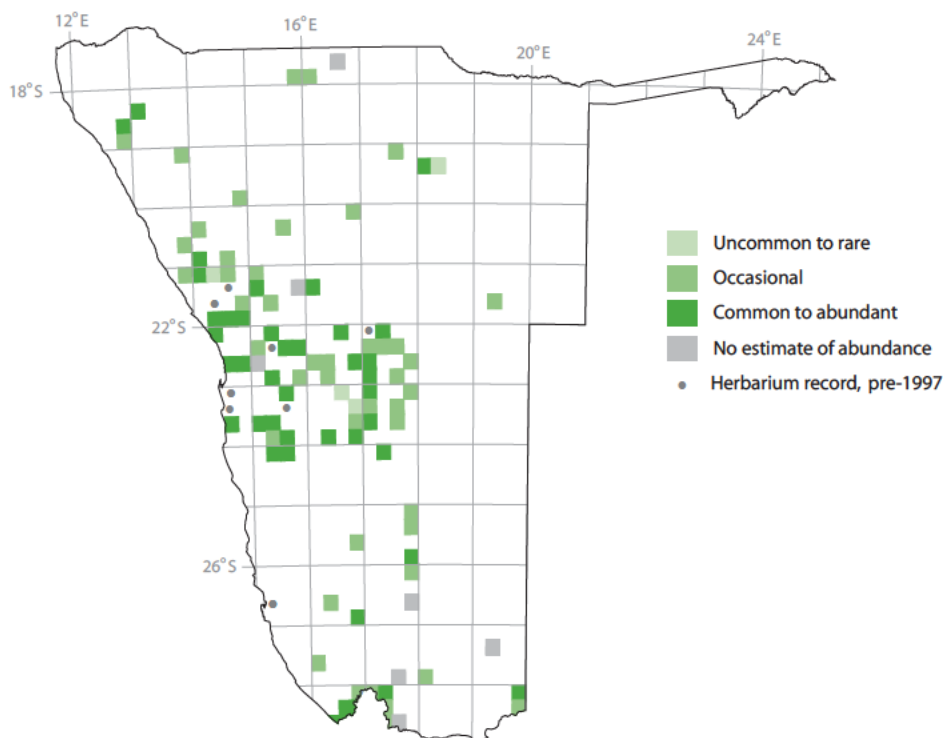


# *Nicotiana glauca* | Wild Tobacco

SOLANACEAE | Origin: Argentina | [176 records from 98 (9%) squares]

Slender, evergreen shrub. LEAVES blue-green, **leathery, with long petioles**. FLOWERS **tubular, yellow**, in hanging clusters. FRUIT brown capsules.



## DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE

Locally common to abundant in central Namibia and scattered localities elsewhere.

## HABITAT

Mostly found in dry rivers and disturbed areas.

## GROWTH FORM

Mostly a shrub in the 1–3-m height class, but sometimes tree-like and occasionally over 8 m high.

## ANNUAL CYCLE

FLOWERS may be found all year round, but mainly from September to November and January to May. FRUIT mainly from November to May. LEAVES virtually evergreen.

## GENERAL

A noticeable increase was noted in the Kuiseb River at Gobabeb (2315CA) in 1997 following several floods (BER1). It produces huge quantities of seeds, and has spread along watercourses. The leaves are poisonous.

## CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Not considered a major threat as it pretty much stays in watercourses, where a good flood will wash it away. However, dense stands in slower flowing and rarely flooded areas, such as the

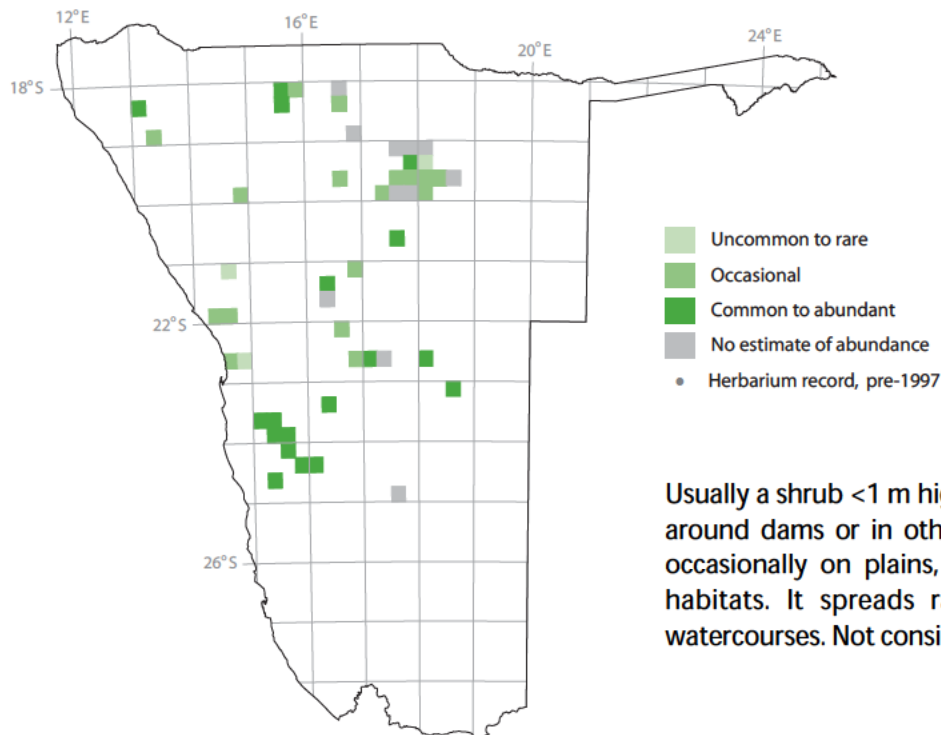
Kuiseb Delta (2314), might not be washed away, choking the watercourse and tapping the ground-water. This plant is worth investigating to see whether it out-competes indigenous vegetation.

## *Datura* spp. | Thorn Apple

SOLANACEAE | Origin: North and Central America | [124 records from 63 squares]

Erect, robust, shrubby annual. LEAVES ovate, up to 200 mm long; on long petioles; margins coarsely and irregularly toothed or lobed; bad smelling. FLOWERS large, solitary, narrowly funnel-shaped; white to light purple. FRUIT brown, hardened **capsules covered with stout or slender, spreading spines**.

This plant is poisonous to mammals, especially the seeds, which are eaten by birds. There are three species that occur in Namibia, *D. ferox*, *D. innoxia* and *D. stramonium*.



Usually a shrub <1 m high, mostly found in rivers, around dams or in other seasonally wet places; occasionally on plains, hill slopes and in other habitats. It spreads rapidly, especially along watercourses. Not considered a threat in Namibia.