

# National Phytosociological Database of Namibia

Ben Strohbach & Fransiska Kangombe

**Abstract:** The National Phytosociological Database of Namibia (GIVD ID AF-NA-001) is a collection of true relevé data, excluding typical rangeland surveys or forestry inventories concentrating on either the graminoid and/or phanerophyte strata. At present consisting of 10,683 relevés collected by various researchers since 1956, the database is continuously being expanded with more relevés being sampled each year. Relevés have been collected for various purposes, including vegetation description and mapping, conservation planning, land use planning and environmental impact assessments. An important criterion for inclusion in this database is the collection of data according to the guidelines used for the Vegetation Survey of Namibia project. Ecoregions covered include the hyper-arid Namib, the arid Nama-Karoo, the Kalahari basin (including the southernmost Miombo transitional woodlands), as well as the central and north-western Namibian highlands.

**Keywords:** Angolan Mopane woodland; Kalahari; Nama-Karoo; Namib Desert; savanna; Succulent Karoo; Zambebian *Baikiaea* woodland.

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|--|---|---|--------------------------|
| GIVD Database ID: AF-NA-001  |   | Last update: 2012-05-10   |                          |
| <b>National Phytosociological Database of Namibia</b>  |   |   |                          |
| <b>Scope:</b> The data is collected for an on-going project to describe the vegetation of Namibia. Data included in the set are from older studies (1940's and 50's), as well as several more recent studies during the 1970's, 80's, 90's till present.   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Status:</b> completed and continuing  |   | <b>Period:</b> 1956-2010  |                          |
| <b>Database manager(s):</b> Ben Strohbach (bens@nbri.org.na)   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Owner:</b> National Botanical Research Institute, P/Bag 13184, Windhoek   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://www.nbri.org.na">http://www.nbri.org.na</a>  |   |   |                          |
| <b>Availability:</b> according to a specific agreement   |   | <b>Online upload:</b> no  | <b>Online search:</b> no |
| <b>Database format(s):</b> TURBOVEG  |   | <b>Export format(s):</b> TURBOVEG, Excel, CSV file, plain text file |                          |
| <b>Publication:</b> Strohbach, B.J., Jürgens, N., 2010. Towards a user-friendly vegetation map of Namibia: ground truthing approach to vegetation mapping, in: Schmiedel, U., Jürgens, N. (Eds.), Patterns and Processes at Regional Scale, Biodiversity in Southern Africa. Klaus Hess Publishers, Göttingen & Windhoek, pp. 46-56. |   |   |                          |
| <b>Plot type(s):</b> normal plots  |   | <b>Plot-size range:</b> 100-1,000 m <sup>2</sup>                    |                          |
| <b>Non-overlapping plots:</b> 11,017   | <b>Estimate of existing plots:</b> 11,017 | <b>Completeness:</b> 100%   |                          |
| <b>Total plot observations:</b> 11,017   | <b>Number of sources:</b> 20              | <b>Valid taxa:</b> 4,426  |                          |
| <b>Countries:</b> NA: 100.0%   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Forest:</b> 0% — <b>Non-forest:</b> aquatic: 0%; semi-aquatic: 2%; arctic-alpine: 0%; natural: 97%; semi-natural: 0%; anthropogenic: 1%   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Guilds:</b> all vascular plants: 100%; lichens (terricolous or aquatic): 1%   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Environmental data:</b> altitude: 70%; slope aspect: 90%; slope inclination: 90%; soil depth: 80%   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Performance measure(s):</b> presence/absence only: 5%; cover: 95%   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Geographic localisation:</b> GPS coordinates (precision 25 m or less): 97%; small grid (not coarser than 10 km): 3%   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Sampling periods:</b> 1950-1959: 2.0%; 1960-1969: 1.0%; 1970-1979: 2.0%; 1980-1989: 6.0%; 1990-1999: 22.0%; 2000-2009: 65.0%; 2010-2019: 2.0%   |   |   |                          |
| <b>Information as of 2012-07-12; further details and future updates available from <a href="http://www.givd.info/ID/AF-NA-001">http://www.givd.info/ID/AF-NA-001</a></b>   |   |   |                          |

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