

BORAGINACEAE

EHRETIA NAMIBIENSIS SUBSP. *NAMIBIENSIS*: A NEW DISTRIBUTION RECORD IN THE *FLORA OF SOUTHERN AFRICA* (*FSA*) REGION

The genus *Ehretia* P.Browne is currently represented by six species and five subspecies in the *FSA* region (Retief 2003). *Ehretia namibiensis* Retief & A.E.vanWyk subsp. *namibiensis* was previously known only from Namibia and Botswana, where it occurs in dry riverbeds and riverine woodland, in shallow soil, calcrete and on rocky outcrops (Retief & Van Wyk 2001). The first record (*Bester 4773*) of this species in South Africa was collected on Calmar Ranch, near Tolwe in the province of Limpopo (2328BA) some 18 months ago. This area had been identified as under-collected in terms of the number of specimens housed in the National Herbarium (PRE), and staff of the Herbarium made use of the opportunity to undertake a collecting trip to the area when they were invited to the ranch early in March 2004. In general, large areas of the western borders of Limpopo and the northern and northwestern borders of the North-West are under-collected according to the PRECIS

database (National Herbarium, Pretoria Computerized Information System) at PRE. More field work in these areas is likely to yield more new distribution records.

REFERENCES

- RETIEF, E. 2003. *Ehretia*. In G. Germishuizen & N.L. Meyer, Plants of southern Africa: an annotated checklist. *Strelitzia* 14: 316. National Botanical Institute, Pretoria.
- RETIEF, E. & VAN WYK, A.E. 2001. The genus *Ehretia* (Boraginaceae: Ehretioideae) in southern Africa. *Bothalia* 31: 9–23.

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