

Charcoal - Where do I start?

1. Documentation needed:

- Proof of ownership (Title Deed) for harvesting on own property
- Lease Agreement if the producer is not the owner of the land
- Written permission from the Traditional Authority for harvesting on communal land.
- Written permission from the chairperson if the farm is part of a Conservancy
- In the case of a resettlement farm, permission needs to be obtained from Ministry of Lands and Resettlement. This agreement needs to be updated when the original lessee passes away and the next of kin takes over. If the contract is not signed by the new "owner" charcoal harvesting is illegal and the Ministry of Lands will confiscate all equipment and charcoal as well as wood harvested.
- Complete Farm Map with farm name, owner (+ tenant), camps, camp numbers & -sizes @ hectares, water points, farm- and official roads, location of homestead and charcoal village (if possible, GPS coordinates), current- (if any) and planned harvesting & exclusions (latter being all excluded areas like environmental sensitive habitats, fields, irrigation areas, cattle corridors, areas not planned to be harvested).

2. Licenses needed:

- Apply for a license for Forest Produce (Form 10) at your Forestry Office
- You will then receive Forestry Inspection Report (form 11) plus a License for Harvesting (Permit – form 12) with signed conditions on the reverse side of the Permit.

3. Administration:

- With a valid Harvesting Permit the harvesting of invader tree species can start on the farm of charcoal unit according to the applicable allocations by Forestry
- Apply for a signed supply agreement at your most reliable buyer
- Apply for Membership at Charcoal Association of Namibia and pay the monthly levies
- Apply when necessary for:
 - a) Transport permit to the buyer (form 13) and sign the reverse side
 - b) Marketing permit to the buyer (form 17) and sign the reverse side
 - c) New harvesting license 2 weeks before the expiring date on the valid permit
 - d) Provide with a complete summary report (form 20) of the previous harvest quantities

4. Common Charcoal Harvesting species:

- Swarthaak (*Senegalia mellifera*)
- Rooihaak in the North / Western areas (*Vachellia reficiens*)
- Baster-haak-en-steek in North / Eastern areas (*Vachellia luederitzii*)
- Krulpeul (*Vachellia tortilis*)
- Withaak (*Senegalia fleckii* & *-erubescens*)
- Geelhaak (*Senegalia senegal*)
- Vloedvlaktedoring (*Vachellia kirkii*)
- Deurmekaar (*Terminalia prunioides*)
- Geelhout (*Terminalia sericea*) careful when using geelhout as it is a soft wood and you might have a weight challenge, it is more suitable for droppers.
- Sekelbos (*Dichrostachys cinerea*)
- Mopani (*Colophospermum mopane*) – only with special permission from Department of Forestry

To determine the stems per hectare that exceed the 18cm Forestry restriction at ground, you need special written approval from Forestry to harvest these species, if these are a threat to bush thickening like the beneath 18 cm species.

5. Edible fodder bush, not to be harvested, being utilised by cattle, game and small stock:

- Gabbabos (*Catophractes alexandri*)
- Kamferbos (*Tachonanthus camphoratus*)
- Rosyntjebos (*Grewia* species)

6. Common species not allowed to be harvested, protected by Namibian legislation/Forestry:

- Kameeldoring (*Vachellia erioloba*)
- Witgat (*Boscia albitrunca*)
- Appelblaar (*Philenoptera*- & *Lonchocarpus nelsii*)
- Hardekool (*Combretum imberbe*)
- Oumaboom (*Albizia anthelmintica*)
- (Wilde) Sering-boom (*Burkea Africana*)
- Kudu-bos (*Combretum apicalatum*)
- Wilde Vye (*Ficus* species)
- Wilde Olyf/Olienhout (*Loea Africana*)
- Huilboom/African wattle (*Peltophorum africanum*)
- Marula (*Sclerocarya birrea*)
- Tambuti (*Spirostachys Africana*)