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Notes on Indigenous Trees and Shrubs of Southern Rhodesia

Leucospermum ellipticum Thunb. R.Br.
(Syn **L. saxosum** S. Moore)
(Proteaceae)

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Leucospermum ellipticum Thunb. R.Br.

(Syn *L. saxosum* S. Moore)

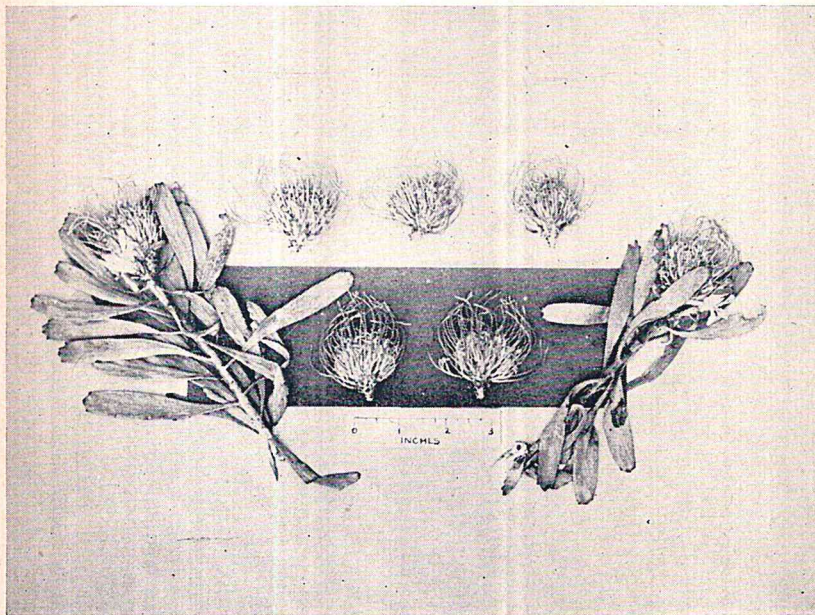
(Proteaceae)

Common Name.—Pin-cushion flower. **Native Name.**—Gombate (Chis.).

General Description.—This is a small shrub usually about 3 feet high. Numerous erect branches spring from ground level. The simple, spirally arranged leaves up to about $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, are narrowly club-shaped being wider at the tips. At the tips of the leaves are typically three, blunt, light brown teeth. Twigs and young leaves are softly, hairy. The attractive flowers in terminal heads about 2 inches in diameter, which are to be seen mainly during the earlier part of the rainy season, are of a pinkish golden colour.

Distribution.—This plant is restricted to the Chimanimani Mountains and is the only *Leucospermum* known to occur in Southern Rhodesia. The genus is well-represented and well-known in the South-Western districts of the Cape Province.

Uses.—No uses are known.



Leucospermum ellipticum

Leaves and flowers.

[Photo by: A. A. Pardy.]