

African Plants

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Karoo Cycad

Taxonomy

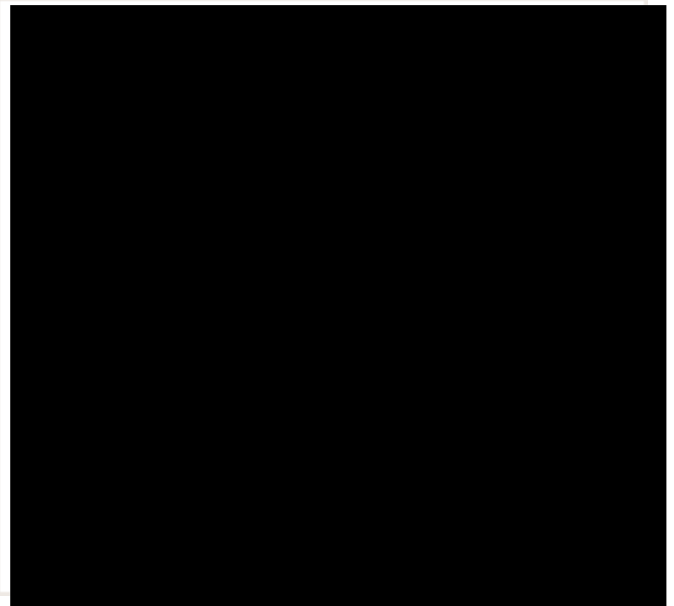
Scientific Name	Encephalartos lehmannii Lehm.
Higher Classification	Gymnosperms
Family	ZAMIACEAE
Common Names	Bread Palm (e), Broodboom (a), Cycad (e), Kafferbrood (a), Kafferbroodboom (a), Karoo Cycad (e), Karoo-broodboom (a)

National Status

Status and Criteria	Near Threatened A2d
Assessment Date	2009/10/31
Assessor(s)	J.S. Donaldson
Justification	Although relatively widespread and abundant, <i>Encephalartos lehmannii</i> has declined in some areas by at least 20%. Plants appear to be sensitive to heavy browsing by goats and mortality of adult plants is common where goats are farmed.

Distribution

Endemism	South African endemic
Provincial distribution	Eastern Cape
Range	Dry interior of the Eastern Cape Province.



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Habitat and Ecology

Major system Terrestrial
Major habitats Albany Thicket, Nama Karoo, Succulent Karoo
Description Arid, low succulent shrubland on rocky ridges and slopes.

Threats

Drought has had an affect in the past. There have been fewer coning episodes and porcupines have damaged stems in search of food. Continuous defoliation by goats result in mortality of adult plants. To a lesser degree, plants have been lost due to over-collecting by poachers.

Population

Subpopulations are large, consisting of several hundred plants.

Population trend Decreasing

Conservation

Protected in two nature reserves.

Notes

Seed set is infrequent but seedling regeneration has been noted in several subpopulations.

Assessment History

Taxon assessed	Status and Criteria	Citation/Red List version
Encephalartos lehmannii Lehm.	NT	Raimondo et al. (2009)
Encephalartos lehmannii Lehm.	Rare	Hilton-Taylor (1996)
Encephalartos lehmannii Lehm.	Rare	Hall et al. (1980)

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Citation

Donaldson, J.S. 2009.
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National Assessment: Red List of
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2020.1. Accessed on 2021/10/15

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