

African Plants

[Red List statistics](#)
[methodology](#)
[Summary of recent changes](#)
[Glossary](#)
[Guidelines for EIAs](#)
[National Red List categories](#)
[Assessment](#)
Browse
[Home](#) >> [Genera: C](#) >> [Genus: Conophytum](#)

- [Genera: A](#)
- [Genera: B](#)
- [Genera: C](#)
- [Genera: D](#)
- [Genera: E](#)
- [Genera: F](#)
- [Genera: G](#)
- [Genera: H](#)
- [Genera: I](#)
- [Genera: J](#)
- [Genera: K](#)
- [Genera: L](#)
- [Genera: M](#)
- [Genera: N](#)
- [Genera: O](#)
- [Genera: P](#)
- [Genera: Q](#)
- [Genera: R](#)
- [Genera: S](#)
- [Genera: T](#)
- [Genera: U](#)
- [Genera: V](#)
- [Genera: W](#)
- [Genera: X](#)
- [Genera: Y](#)
- [Genera: Z](#)

Taxonomy

Scientific Name **Conophytum acutum L.Bolus**
Higher Classification Dicotyledons
Family AIZOACEAE
Synonyms Ophthalmophyllum acutum (L.Bolus) Tischer

National Status

Status and Criteria Vulnerable D2
Assessment Date 2015/06/08
Assessor(s) S.A. Hammer & A.J. Young
Justification A range-restricted species (EOO <163 km², AOO <50 km²) that has lost some habitat to infrastructure development, but habitat loss is not continuing. Three known locations are potentially threatened by harvesting for the specialist succulent trade, livestock grazing and infrastructure maintenance.

Distribution

Endemism South African endemic
Provincial distribution Western Cape
Range Bitterfontein.

Habitat and Ecology

Major system Terrestrial
Major habitats Knersvlakte Quartz Vygieveld
Description Salty quartz flats and slopes.

Threats



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In 1990 one of the known subpopulations was partially destroyed due to the installation of telephone poles (S. Hammer pers. obs.). Since then there has been no further habitat loss. Remaining subpopulations are however potentially threatened by livestock overgrazing, further disturbance from maintenance of telecommunications infrastructure, and possibly collecting for horticultural purposes.

Population

Population Stable trend

Assessment History

| Taxon assessed | Status and Criteria | Citation/Red List version |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Conophytum acutum</i> L.Bolus | VU D2 | Raimondo et al. (2009) |
| <i>Conophytum acutum</i> L.Bolus | VU D2 | Victor (2002) |
| <i>Conophytum acutum</i> L.Bolus | Vulnerable | Hilton-Taylor (1996) |

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