

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 herreanthus S.A.Hammer subsp. rex S.A.Hammer
Higher Classification	Dicotyledons
Family	AIZOACEAE

National Status

Status and Criteria	Rare
Assessment Date	2015/06/30
Assessor(s)	A.J. Young & D. Raimondo
Justification	A range-restricted subspecies endemic to the southern Richtersveld (EOO 17 km ²). It is locally abundant and not threatened.

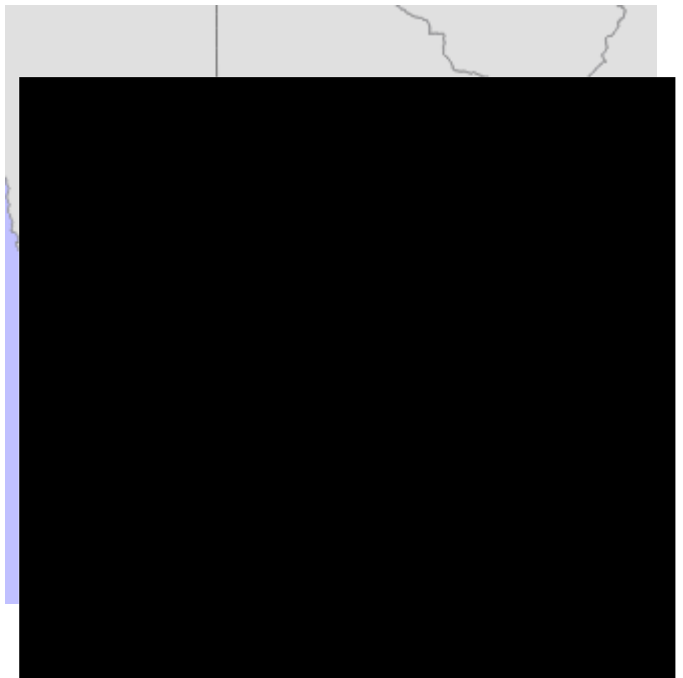
Distribution

Endemism	South African endemic
Provincial distribution	Northern Cape
Range	Richtersveld, near Eksteenfontein.

Habitat and Ecology

Major system	Terrestrial
Major habitats	Succulent Karoo
Description	Crevices in quartzite outcrops, generally in semi-shade or full sun in Kosiesberg Succulent Shrubland.

Threats



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The most severe threats to plant species in the Richtersveld are plant collectors and habitat degradation and trampling by livestock, but neither of these threats appear to impact this taxon at present. *C. herreanthus* is a unique species in the genus - in the past it was placed in its own genus, *Herreanthus*. Subspecies *herreanthus* has been collected to extinction in the wild, but no decline has been observed in this taxon, possibly because it is readily available in cultivation. It is potentially threatened by opportunistic, indiscriminate succulent collecting in accessible sites near roads.

Population

This taxon is known from an extremely small area in the Richtersveld, where it is locally abundant. Several scattered clumps of 100-500 plants occur across the area, and the population is stable.

Population trend Stable

Assessment History

Taxon assessed	Status and Criteria	Citation/Red List version
Conophytum herreanthus S.A.Hammer subsp. rex S.A.Hammer	Rare	2015.1
Conophytum herreanthus S.A.Hammer subsp. rex S.A.Hammer	Least Concernal.	Raimondo et al. (2009)

Bibliography

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Hammer, S.A. 1993. The genus *Conophytum*: A conograph. Succulent Plant Publications, Pretoria.

Raimondo, D., von Staden, L., Foden, W., Victor, J.E., Helme, N.A., Turner, R.C., Kamundi, D.A. and Manyama, P.A. 2009. Red List of South African Plants. *Strelitzia* 25. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria.

Citation

Young, A.J. & Raimondo, D. 2015.
Conophytum herreanthus
S.A.Hammer subsp. rex
S.A.Hammer. National
Assessment: Red List of South
African Plants version 2020.1.
Accessed on 2021/09/25

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