

Plants

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Taxonomy

Scientific Name	Conophytum hyracis S.A.Hammer
Higher Classification	Dicotyledons
Family	AIZOACEAE

National Status

Status and Criteria	Critically Endangered B1ab(v)+2ab(v)
Assessment Date	2015/06/10
Assessor(s)	A.J. Young
Justification	A highly localized species, currently known from one subpopulation of <500 individuals within an area <5km ² . Other surveys in the area have thus far failed to locate additional populations. The Population appears to be disturbed and is possibly in decline, but threats are not known.

Distribution

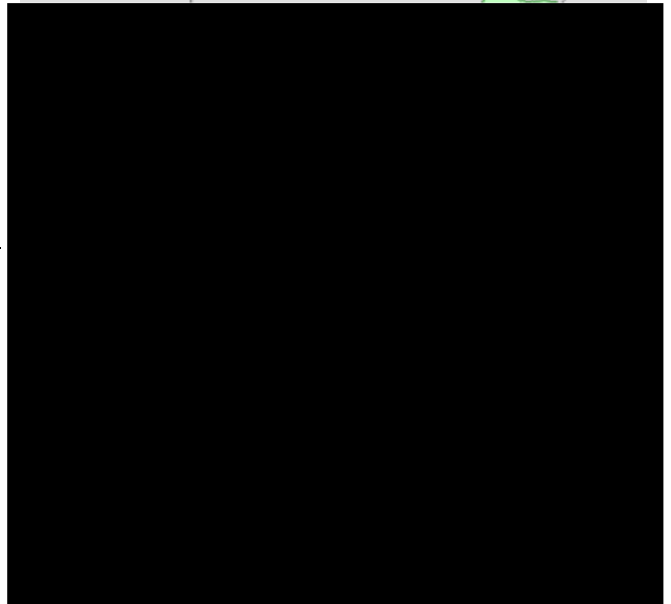
Endemism	South African endemic
Provincial distribution	Western Cape
Range	Ridges north-east of Bitterfontein, northern Western Cape.

Habitat and Ecology

Major system	Terrestrial
Major habitats	Southern Namaqualand Quartzite Klipkoppe Shrubland
Description	Cracks and crevices in granite outcrops.

Threats

The threats to this species are not understood. The population appears to have declined recently due to a disturbance, but the causes are unknown.



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Population

This recently described species is currently known from a single subpopulation. When first discovered, it was locally abundant within suitable habitat. However, recently the population has declined for unknown reasons (A.J. Young pers. obs.). The population now consists of fewer than 500 mature individuals. Its habitat is still relatively poorly explored, and it is possible that other subpopulations may exist. Field surveys have thus far failed to locate any additional subpopulations.

Population trend Decreasing

Assessment History

Taxon assessed	Status and Criteria	Citation/Red List version
Conophytum hyracis S.A.Hammer	CR B1ab(v)+2ab(v)	2017.1
Conophytum hyracis S.A.Hammer	Rare	2014.1

Bibliography

Hammer, S.A. 2009. Conophytum confessional: three new species from South Africa. Cactus and Succulent Journal 81(4):191-195.

Citation

Young, A.J. 2015. Conophytum hyracis S.A.Hammer. National Assessment: Red List of South African Plants version 2020.1. Accessed on 2021/09/25

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