

## 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](#)

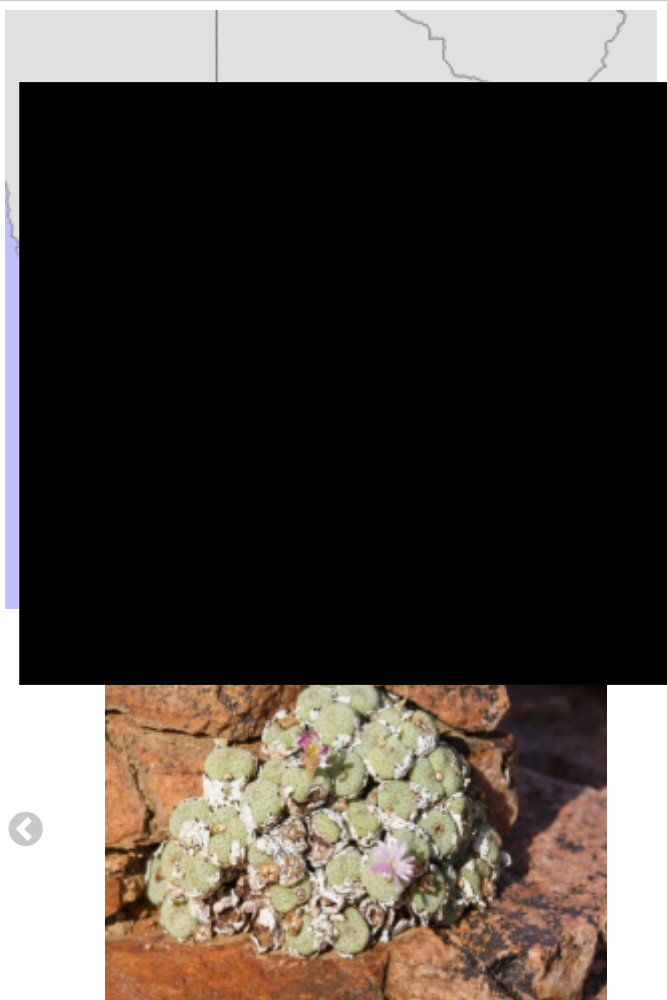
- [Genera: A](#)
- [Genera: B](#)
- [Genera: C](#)
- [Genera: D](#)
- [Genera: E](#)
- [Genera: F](#)
- [Genera: G](#)
- [Genera: H](#)
- [Genera: I](#)
- [Genera: J](#)
- [Genera: K](#)
- [Genera: L](#)
- [Genera: M](#)
- [Genera: N](#)
- [Genera: O](#)
- [Genera: P](#)
- [Genera: Q](#)
- [Genera: R](#)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

### Taxonomy

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Conophytum jucundum (N.E.Br.) N.E.Br. subsp. fragile (Tischer) S.A.Hammer</b>
<b>Higher Classification</b>	Dicotyledons
<b>Family</b>	AIZOACEAE
<b>Synonyms</b>	Conophytum avenantii L.Bolus, Conophytum fragile Tischer, Conophytum middlemostii L.Bolus, Conophytum nordenstamii L.Bolus, Conophytum wettsteinii (A.Berger) N.E.Br. subsp. fragile (Tischer) S.A.Hammer

### National Status

<b>Status and Criteria</b>	<b>Near Threatened A4a; B1ab(v)+2ab(v)</b>
<b>Assessment Date</b>	2020/02/10
<b>Assessor(s)</b>	A.J. Young, P.C.V. Van Wyk & D. Raimondo
<b>Justification</b>	Widespread and common species across the Richtersveld region of South Africa with an extent of occurrence (EOO) of 5611 km <sup>2</sup> and is known from 27 locations. Localised declines to certain subpopulations has taken place since



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2014 as a result of extreme drought events, these declines are suspected to have caused a decline of between 10 and 20% of the overall populations. Declines linked to ongoing aridification associated with climate change are expected to occur within the next 10 years. With a generation length of between five and 10 years this taxon therefore qualifies for Near Threatened under criterion A and B.

## Distribution

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<b>Endemism</b>	South African endemic
<b>Provincial distribution</b>	Northern Cape
<b>Range</b>	Richtersveld, from the Orange River to Steinkopf in the Northern Cape South Africa.

## Habitat and Ecology

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<b>Major system</b>	Terrestrial
<b>Major habitats</b>	Succulent Karoo
<b>Description</b>	Gneiss, pegmatite and quartz rubble.

## Threats

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Extreme drought conditions in the Richtersveld has resulted in a 30% decline between 2014 and 2018 to one of the subpopulations which happens to be within one of South African National Parks's long term monitoring sites. Overall the population is suspected to have declined between 10 and 20%, it is likely to recover if rainfall is received. The Richtersveld region is however predicted to experience longterm aridification and increases in temperatures associated with climate change. Declines to the population are therefore predicted to be ongoing.

## Population

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This taxon is locally very common. However with extreme drought

experienced across its range between 2014 and 2020, the population is currently declining.

**Population trend** Decreasing

## Assessment History

Taxon assessed	Status and Criteria	Citation/Red List version
Conophytum jucundum (N.E.Br.) N.E.Br. subsp. fragile (Tischer) S.A.Hammer	Least Concernal.	Raimondo et al. (2009)

## Bibliography

Hammer, S. 2002. Dumpling and his wife: New view of the genus Conophytum. EAE Creative Colour, Norwich.

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

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