

## African Plants

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## Soldier-in-the-box

### Taxonomy

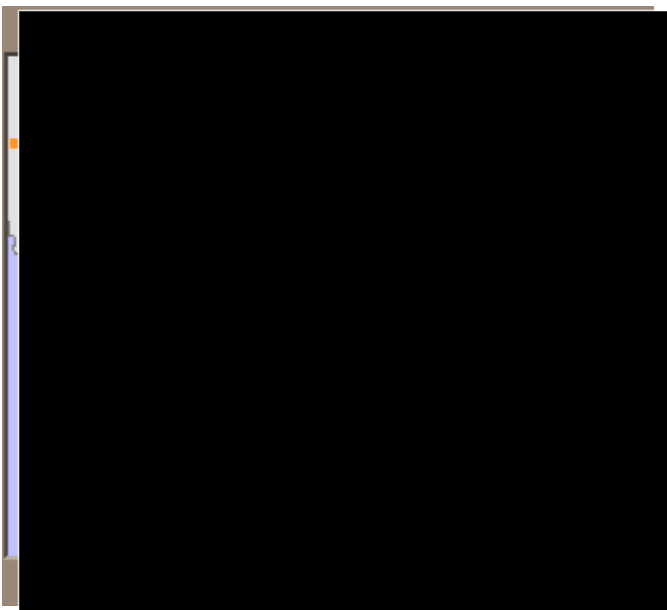
|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Scientific Name</b>       | <b><i>Albuca setosa</i></b><br><b>Jacq.</b>  |
| <b>Higher Classification</b> | Monocotyledons   |
| <b>Family</b>                | HYACINTHACEAE  |
| <b>Synonyms</b>              | <i>Albuca</i><br><i>pachyklamys</i><br>Baker,<br><i>Ornithogalum setosum</i> (Jacq.)<br>J.C.Manning & Goldblatt                  |
| <b>Common Names</b>          | Diktamarak (a),<br>Ingcino (z),<br>Mototse (ss),<br>Slymstok (a),<br>Slymuintjie (a),<br>Snotblom (a),<br>Soldier-in-the-box (e) |

### National Status

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Status and Criteria</b> | <b>Least Concern</b>  |
| <b>Assessment Date</b>     | 2008/01/14  |
| <b>Assessor(s)</b>         | V.L. Williams, D. Raimondo, N.R. Crouch, A.B. Cunningham, C.R. Scott-Shaw, M. Lötter & A.M. Ngwenya |

**Justification** A widespread and common species. It is used for traditional medicine, but not harvested in large volumes, and therefore this species is not suspected to be declining.

### Distribution



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Search for images of *Albuca setosa* on [iNaturalist](#)

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Endemism</b>                | Not endemic to South Africa  |
| <b>Provincial distribution</b> | Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West, Western Cape |
| <b>Range</b>                   | Widespread across South Africa and extending in to Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana and Namibia.                   |

## Habitat and Ecology

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|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Major system</b> | Terrestrial                            |
| <b>Description</b>  | Rocky slopes and flats, up to 2 400 m. |

## Threats

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Used for traditional medicine and sold in various markets across South Africa. Used interchangeably with *Schizocarphus nervosa*, although recent studies have shown that *A. setosa* is more prevalent in the markets (V.L. Williams, N.R. Crouch and V. Brueton, unpublished research). It was sold by at least 40% of Witwatersrand muthi shops in 1994 and 9% of Faraday traders in 2001 (Williams 2007). Also recorded in Durban and Eastern Cape muthi markets in 1988 (Cunningham 1988, Dold and Cocks 2002).

## Population

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|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| <b>Population trend</b> | Stable |
|-------------------------|--------|

## Assessment History

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| Taxon assessed      | Status and Criteria  | Citation/Red List version |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Albuca setosa Jacq. | <b>Least Concern</b> | Raimondo et al. (2009)    |

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## Citation

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Williams, V.L., Raimondo, D.,  
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Assessment: Red List of South

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Accessed on 2021/12/21

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