

Plants

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Taxonomy

Scientific Name **Stapelia rubiginosa Nel**

Higher Classification Dicotyledons

Family APOCYNACEAE

National Status

Status and Criteria **Endangered B1ab(iii,v)+2ab(iii,v)**

Assessment Date 2015/06/10

Assessor(s) N.A. Helme, D. Raimondo & L. von Staden

Justification EOO 308 km², plants at four known locations continue to decline due to ongoing habitat degradation.

Distribution

Endemism South African endemic

Provincial distribution Northern Cape

Range Richtersveld.

Habitat and Ecology

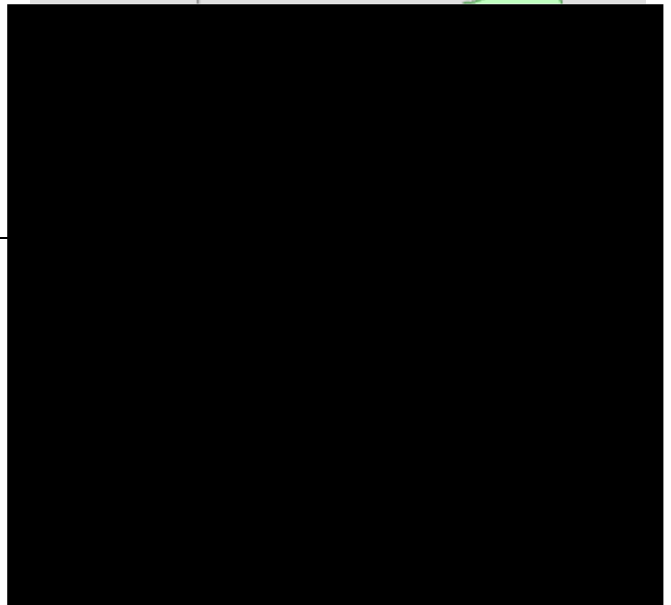
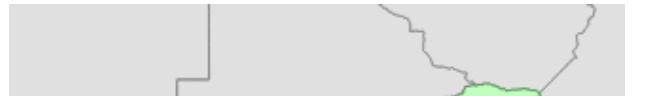
Major system Terrestrial

Major habitats Stinkfonteinberge Eastern Apron Shrubland, Kosiesberg Succulent Shrubland, Central Richtersveld Mountain Shrubland, Western Gariep Hills Desert

Description Sheltered inside shrubs on stony, typically north-facing, slopes.

Threats

Stapelia rubiginosa is dependent on shelter provided by nurse-shrubs, but across large parts of the Richtersveld, severe overgrazing has significantly reduced shrub cover, and this species has already disappeared from areas such as Cornellskop and Remhoogte, where it is known from historical records (Bruyns 2005). This species occurs predominantly on lower slopes, where grazing pressure is very high, especially close to settlements.



Population

At least two known subpopulations of *Stapelia rubiginosa* have already disappeared as a result of habitat degradation. This species is rare, and seldom collected, but known records are in areas also under severe grazing pressure, and decline is therefore likely to continue.

Population trend Decreasing

Assessment History

Taxon	Status and assessed Criteria	Citation/Red List version
Stapelia rubiginosa Nel	EN B1ab(iii,v)+2ab(iii,v)	2015.1
Stapelia rubiginosa Nel	VU D2	Raimondo et al. (2009)
Stapelia rubiginosa Nel	Rare/Vulnerable	Hilton-Taylor (1996)
Stapelia rubiginosa Nel	Rare	Hall et al. (1980)

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Leach, L.C. 1985. A Revision of *Stapelia* L. (Asclepiadaceae). In: *Excelsa Taxonomic Series 3* (pp. 1-157), The Aloe, Cactus and Succulent Society of Zimbabwe, Harare.

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Citation

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