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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX



Geographical range

## Species of the Day: Albany Cycad

The **Albany Cycad**, *Encephalartos latifrons*, is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. It is a slow-growing cycad that occurs in a small area of the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa. No natural reproduction has occurred for more than 30 years, probably due to the distance between plants and the local extinction of beetle pollinators.

The Albany Cycad probably first declined due to habitat loss, but in the last 50 years the prevailing threat has been the removal of adult plants by plant collectors. This is a common problem for all southern African cycads. Invasive plants, especially *Hakea sericia*, have transformed the habitat in some areas and could become an additional threat.

None of the surviving subpopulations of Albany Cycad occur naturally within protected areas, but a species management plan has been developed to address the main threats. The plan includes actions to improve the security of plants on private land, artificial pollination and propagation of seeds, and re-introduction and translocation of plants to protected sites.

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