EXTINCT & THREATENED

APOCYNACEAE

Adenium boehmianum Schinz
Status: EN D
Very distinctive-looking plant. Apparently known from only a single Botswana field observation in the hills of Kuke Ghanzi; no herbarium records for this species. Known only from a few individuals. There are varying reports that the species in Botswana may possibly represent a new taxonomic entity. It is known mainly from Namibia where herbarium records exist for it.

Adenium oleifolium Stapf
Status: Threats: Harvesting, collection
Sought after by collectors and used as a medicinal plant. Ointment made from the plant is used for snake and scorpion bites, and a root extract is used for tonics and treating fevers. Rare and definitely requires protection. Is also found in the San Kalahari and the southern Kalahari. Also known from South Africa, Namibia, and elsewhere. Although widespread, it is always rare. It is eaten by people and animals. Has whitish to greenish flowers with purple patches. The whole plant is eaten raw or roasted. Locally it is called ‘dadaba’. It has a smoky flavour and is a good source of water.

ORCHIDACEAE

Ansellia africana Lindl.
Status: VU A1ad
This is the only epiphytic orchid in Botswana. All orchids are rare in Botswana and therefore, are usually collector’s items amongst ecotourists. Frequently observed in cultivation. Widely distributed throughout Africa, but certainly threatened in Botswana. Rumoured to have aphrodisiac properties.

Erythrophysa transvaalensis I.Verd.
Status: VU D1B2
The first and only record for Botswana was collected in Shoshong in 1993. Known from the former western Transvaal (South Africa) where it is considered rare. Also known from Zimbabwe (possibly Matopos). The habitat of this species is rocky wooded hills, of which there are few in Botswana.

Euphoria venteri L.C.Leach ex R.Archer & S.Carter
Status: EN C2a
Endemism: Endemic?
Threats: Urban expansion
Only two subpopulations recorded in Botswana from a gypsum substrate. These subpopulations are extremely disjunct (one in the north, the other in the south) and occur close to the border of eastern Botswana. The possibility exists that this species occurs in Zimbabwe (Plumtree) but this cannot be established without field work and taxonomic validation.

PORTULACACEAE

Eulophia latilabris Sumnerh.
Status: VU A1ad
Threats: Collection
Large, showy orchid that grows in peaty ground in perennial and seasonal swamps. In danger due to collectors. Flowers from late October to December. Widely spread in West Tropical Africa.

NOTES

Adenium oleifolium is known mainly from Namibia where herbarium records exist for it. Reports that the species in Botswana may possibly represent a new taxonomic entity. It is known mainly from Namibia where herbarium records exist for it.

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**ACANTHACEAE**

*Bulbocodium matopensis* S.Moore  
**Status:** LR-lc  
No herbarium record of it being collected in Botswana, and also not in PRECIS. However, observed in the wild in Botswana. The distribution of this species in Botswana represents a small proportion of the global population. Known mainly from an area between Francistown and Ramokgwehankane. Probably first collected in Matopos in Zimbabwe. Also known from the former Transvaal (South Africa).

*Blepharis bainesii* S.Moore ex C.B.Clarke  
**Status:** LR-lc  
Known from gypsum substrate in southeastern Botswana. Reported to have been observed several times in the vicinity of Matsauw(e). Also known from southwestern Zimbabwe. However, not found in the former Transvaal area of South Africa. Possibly no herbarium specimens for Botswana. Limited global distribution.

**CAPPARACEAE**

*Boscia foetida* Schinz subsp. *minima* Toelken  
**Status:** LR-nt  
Threats: Grazing  
The varietal status of this species represents plants shorter than 30 cm that are cushion-like. It is suspected that this dwarf form could be a growth form as a result of overgrazing. It may be rare, but it is certainly not threatened in Botswana. It is a shrub found on limestone outcrops, often near pans or on clay soils. Also found in South Africa (Northern Cape and former Transvaal). Apparently not recorded in Namibia.

**CYPERACEAE**

*Pycreus okavangensis* Podlech  
**Status:** LR-lc  
Nondescript, small plant. Widespread in northwest Botswana occurring throughout the lower delta, on the Chobe River and near a pan in the Kalahari. Also recorded in Namibia and possibly Angola and Zambia. The species has a wide distribution range.

**EUPHORBIACEAE**

*Jatropha botswanica* Radcl.-Sm.  
**Status:** LR-lc  
Endemism: Endemic  
According to PRECIS, known only from Botswana. This species is fairly well protected since it occurs on black clay which is unarable and generally avoided by developments or human settlements. Currently known only from two localities, and this is probably due to collecting efforts.

**FABACEAE**

*Acacia hebeclada* DC subsp. *chobiensis* (O.B.Mill.) A.Schreib.  
**Status:** LR-nt  
Multi-stemmed tree-shrub. Found in riverbanks or sandbanks close to the northern border of Botswana but only for a limited distance downstream. The species is safe where it occurs, but its numbers and the size of its habitats are exceedingly small when compared to other plants from Botswana. It occupies a niche on an unstable landform (riverbanks/sandbanks). It is very sensitive to unnatural water level fluctuations. Found in Angola, Namibia and Zambia.

**PEDALIACEAE**

*Harpagophytum procumbens* (Burch.) DC. ex Meisn.  
**Status:** LR-nt  
No subspecies or varieties of this species is in use in Botswana. High-value export product for its medicinal properties. More valued than *H. zeyheri* since the active ingredient is more concentrated. Could become threatened due to reckless harvesting which is already reported to be taking place (the main tuber is removed rather than the side tubers). However, high levels of recruitment. Found mainly on the Kalahari sands of western Botswana.

*Harpagophytum zeyheri* Decne.  
**Status:** LR-nt  
No subspecies or varieties of this species is in use in Botswana. High-value export product for its medicinal properties. Far more accessible than *H. procumbens* since it is fairly common along the roadsides of eastern Botswana. High levels of recruitment.

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*Acacia hebeclada subsp. chobiensis* in habitat in the Okavango Delta. (Photo: M.P. Setshogo)
**AIZOACEAE**

*Nananthus aloides* (Haw.) Schwantes  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
Known from border area of the Nossob River. The herbarium descriptors of the distribution of this species are unclear, and therefore it cannot be confirmed if the species also occurs in Namibia and South Africa.

*Nananthus margaritiferus* L. Bolus  
**Status:** DD  
No herbarium records exist for this species in Botswana. Also known from Namibia where it is legally protected.

**ASCLEPIADACEAE**

*Ceregegia floribunda* N.E. Br.  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
According to PRECIS, endemic to Botswana. The type locality is Khwebe Hills. Suspected to also occur in Namibia but this has not been confirmed. May possibly occur in South Africa, but again, this cannot be confirmed. Taxonomically, this species is poorly known.

**ASTERACEAE**

*Arctotis rogersii* S. Moore  
**Status:** DD  
Could be endemic to Botswana, but may be a synonym or may occur further north. Reported that this may be a garden hybrid which occurs in the Cape (South Africa) but this cannot be confirmed. The taxonomic status of this species is uncertain.

*Arctotis serpens* S. Moore  
**Status:** DD  
Could be endemic to Botswana, but may be a synonym or may occur further north. Reported that this may be a garden hybrid which occurs in the Cape (South Africa) but this cannot be confirmed. The taxonomic status of this species is uncertain.

*Erlinea remifolia* Wild & G. V. Pope  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
According to PRECIS, endemic to Botswana. Based on the number of herbarium collections, is reported to be common. However, this could well be an artefact since the collections could perhaps have been mistakenly identified as *E. misera,* a common species in Botswana.

*Bennera laxa* (Bremek. & Oberm.) Kallersjo  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
According to PRECIS, known only from Botswana.

**Cyperaceae**

*Eleocharis cubangensis* H. E. Hess  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Unknown  
Endemic to the Okavango River, and currently known only from Namibia and Botswana.

**ERIOSPERMACEEAE**

*Eriospermum linearifolium* Baker  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
Could be endemic to Botswana, but may be a synonym or may occur further north. Recorded from the Okavango and Chobe area. Not known from Namibia.

**Fabaceae**

*Acacia hebeclada* DC. subsp. *tristani* A. Schreib.  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
Has down-turned pods, and a small proportion of the global population is distributed in Botswana. It is found in the northwestern corner of Botswana. Mostly, it is known from Namibia and a few plants extend into Botswana in the fossil river valleys. This area is extremely well-protected and inaccessible. This area has also been relatively unexplored by botanists.

**ORCHIDACEAE**

*Habenaria pasmithii* G. Will.  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
In Botswana, it is known only from the Okavango (type locality). Known from a second collection in Mwimungu (Zambia). Apparently known only from these disjunct localities. Probably a case of being undercollected or misidentifications of other taxa found between these two localities (possibility of a uniform distribution?). In water meadows and slow-flowing water.

*Zeuxine africana* Rchb. f.  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
Extremely rare in southern Africa, but widespread across Africa. In Botswana, known only from the Moremi Nature Reserve, as well as other localities in the north of Botswana such as Xobega Lediba. Flowers in July to August.

**POACEAE**

*Aristida wildii* Melderis  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
Could be endemic to Botswana, but may be a synonym or may occur further north (unlikely to occur in the Caprivi). Found in areas of Botswana that are generally rocky.

*Psilochloa pilgeriana* (Schweick.) Launert  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
In Botswana, it is known from the north (Samedupe Bridge) and the southeast (Content Farm). It is also found in Namibia, in seasonally flooded areas, growing in water. Altitude of about 1,050 m. Probably undercollected and widespread.

*Sporobolus bechuanicus* Gooss.  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
According to PRECIS, known from fewer than five collections and occurring only in Botswana. However, reported to be very common in pans of Makgadikgadi and Lepepe. The main centre of distribution is central Botswana.

**Rosaceae**

*Grielum cuneefolium* Schinz  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Unknown  
The type is from Lydenburg in South Africa. The species does not occur in Namibia. It has a restricted global distribution.

**Santalaceae**

*Thesium dissitum* N. E. Br.  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
According to PRECIS, known only from Botswana.

**Scrophulariaceae**

*Jamesbrittenia integerrima* (Benth.) Hilliard  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
According to PRECIS, known only from Botswana.

*Jamesbrittenia concinna* (Hiern) Hilliard  
**Status:** DD  
Endemism: Endemic?  
According to PRECIS, known only from Botswana.

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**DATA DEFICIENT**