



# Introduction

This short introduction will familiarise you with the structure and layout of the *Southern African Plant Red Data Lists*.

## Overview

A regional overview by Janice Golding, SABONET's RDL Coordinator, gives background information on Red Listing in southern Africa and summarises the results for the entire region.

## Country Chapters

Each country's RDL forms a separate chapter of the book, starting with a fact sheet and an overview, followed by the country's red-listed taxa. The fact sheet lists relevant country statistics and also summarises the RDL taxon numbers. Each chapter is identified by a colour-coded bar on the edge of the page, making it easy to find any particular country at a glance.

## Red Data Lists

The list of taxa that follows a country's overview is arranged into three sections: EXTINCT & THREATENED, LOWER RISK, and DATA DEFICIENT. The EXTINCT & THREATENED section contains all *Extinct*, *Critically Endan-*

*gered*, and *Vulnerable* taxa. The LOWER RISK section comprises all taxa that were rated *Lower Risk*, with both *Near Threatened* and *Least Concern* subcriteria. The DATA DEFICIENT section contains all taxa with *Data Deficient* ratings.

IUCN 1994 categories were used for all assessments. A concise guide to the IUCN categories and subcriteria is printed on the inside front cover of the book, making it easy for non-specialists to interpret the IUCN assessments of plants in the lists.

The *Southern African Plant Red Data Lists* book contains information on approximately 4 100 assessments. For ease of use, the taxa are arranged alphabetically within each section. Under each taxon name, in addition to the IUCN assessment, the endemism, threats, and distribution of the taxon are given, where these are available. In most cases, there are also additional notes on the taxon.

## Index

A detailed index lists all families, species, and synonyms that are found in the book.

## Appendices

Appendices include the 1994 and 2001 IUCN Red List Categories in both English and Portuguese, as well as the IUCN Guidelines for National Application of IUCN Categories.

## Database on CD

You can also order the full *Southern African Plant Red Data Lists Database*—on which this book is based—from SABONET. The database not only provides all the information contained in the Southern African Plant Red Data Lists book, but also lists additional data, such as extent of occurrence, population size, past decline, and future decline. The database features an easy-to-use search facility, enabling users to find, print, and export information on taxa. If you are interested in ordering the CD, send an e-mail message to [redatalist@sabonet.org](mailto:redatalist@sabonet.org), including the phrase "Red Data List Order" in the subject line, and your name and mailing address in the body of the message. Alternatively, you can send a fax with the same information to (27) 12 804-5979, or write to Red Data List Orders, SABONET, National Botanical Institute, Private Bag X101, Pretoria 0001, South Africa.

country map

regional overview

colour-coded bar

fact sheet

section title

family name

taxon assessment