



1a
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Pink-flowered sheath cholla (*Cylindropuntia pallida*)



1b
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Chain-fruit cholla (*Cylindropuntia fulgida* var. *fulgida*)



1b
!

Boxing-glove cactus (*Cylindropuntia fulgida* var. *mamillata*)



1b
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Pencil cactus (*Cylindropuntia leptocaulis*)



1b
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Orange tuna (*Opuntia elata*)



1b
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Cochineal prickly pear (*Opuntia monacantha*)

Invasive cacti Western, Eastern & Northern Cape

Organs of state and private property owners are responsible for controlling and removing Category 1a and 1b invasive species from all state-owned and privately-owned land.



1b
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Pencil cactus
(*Cylindropuntia leptocaulis*)



Why are invasive cacti a problem?

- Reproduce and spread rapidly
- Outcompete indigenous plants
- Threaten agriculture
- Threaten livestock through sharp spines
- Threaten rare and endangered plants
- Devalue and degrade the land
- Prevent access to shade trees



1b
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Velvet opuntia (*Opuntia tomentosa*)



1b
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Torch cactus (*Trichocereus spachiana*)



1a
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Bilberry cactus (*Myrtillocactus geometrizans*)



1a
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Strangler prickly pear (*Harrisia balansae*)



2
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Dragon fruit (*Hylocereus undatus*)



1b
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Barbados gooseberry / pereskia (*Pereskia aculeata*)

Controlling invasive species

Invasive species are controlled under the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act no. 10 of 2004) Alien and Invasive Species (AIS) Regulations.

The National List includes 567 invasive species in four categories.

1a
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Category 1a

- Combat, eradicate and remove these invasive species.
- Any form of trade or planting is strictly prohibited.
- Report sightings to SANBI.

1b
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Category 1b

- Control and wherever possible, remove and destroy.
- Any form of trade or planting is strictly prohibited.
- Property owners and organs of state must develop control plans to detail the long-term control of these species.

2
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Category 2

- Species requiring a permit issued by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).
- Species must not spread outside of demarcated land.
- Unpermitted Category 2 species revert to Category 1b.

3
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Category 3

- Species may remain in prescribed areas or provinces.
- Further planting, propagation or trade, is prohibited.
- If species occur within a protected area or riparian (wetland) they revert to Category 1b.

For more information

www.dffe.gov.za | www.invasives.org.za

Call Centre: 086 111 2468

Info: callcentre@environment.gov.za

Permits: AIScompliance@environment.gov.za

Environmental Crimes Hotline: 0800 205 005

