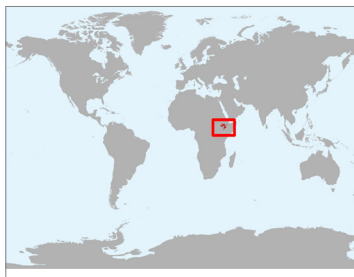




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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	ENDANGERED	<b>&lt; CRITICALLY ENDANGERED &gt;</b>	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX



Geographical range

## Species of the Day: *Gladiolus balensis* Goldblatt

*Gladiolus balensis* Goldblatt is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This plant is endemic to Ethiopia and thus far has only been collected in two locations. It grows in basaltic rocky areas which have now become largely cultivated or, in some areas, left fallow for grazing. This plant grows to about 55 cm in height, bearing a corm of about 20 mm in diameter, and has a very narrow altitudinal range of about 1,700-1,900 metres above sea level.

*Gladiolus balensis* Goldblatt is faced with a serious threat from agricultural expansion. In the two areas in which this species has been collected, conversion of woodland and wooded grassland into wheat and teff (*Eragrostis tef*) cultivation is occurring. Agricultural expansion and overgrazing by livestock affect both the extent of occurrence and area of occupancy of the species.

The two known populations of *Gladiolus balensis* Goldblatt are not in protected areas and there are no specific conservation efforts in place for this species.

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