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## Amazing Species: Slender Restio Grasshopper

The **Slender Restio Grasshopper**, *Betiscooides meridionalis*, is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This flightless grasshopper is endemic to the Cape Region, South Africa, where it only occurs in restio vegetation (Restionaceae - a family of perennial, evergreen rush-like flowering plants native to the Southern Hemisphere).

The Slender Restio Grasshopper occurs mainly in moist areas at higher elevation in habitats which are strongly fragmented. Increasing wildfire frequency, invasions of alien species and anthropogenic pressures from urban and touristic development threaten these habitats, which in turn may threaten the survival of this perfectly camouflaged invertebrate.

No conservation measures are currently in place to protect this species. However, many populations occur in nature reserves, particularly in the UNESCO world heritage site 'Cape Floral Region Protected Areas'. An ongoing research project collects more data on its distribution, genetics and population ecology.

Geographical range

**Knowledge Experts Get Involved**



The production of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is made possible through the IUCN Red List Partnership.