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



Geographical range

## Amazing Species: Temminck's Ground Pangolin

The **Temminck's Ground Pangolin**, *Smutsia temminckii*, is one of eight extant pangolin species and is listed as Vulnerable on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. It is the most widespread of the African pangolins, however, it is increasingly threatened and already possibly extinct in Swaziland.

Temminck's Ground Pangolin is protected by law in most range states, but its numbers are declining due to demand for its body parts and scales which are used for bushmeat and medicinal purposes. Treated with superstition across Africa, some believe that seeing a pangolin predicts a drought and to prevent it the animal must be killed. Worryingly, like other African pangolins, the nature and circumstances surrounding seizures of these animals suggest increased poaching linked to illicit international trade destined for Asian markets rather than local use.

This pangolin is protected by law in most range states and is also listed in CITES Appendix II, meaning international trade in this species is regulated. However, better enforcement of regulation is needed to address poaching and trade. Projects should also be initiated to investigate current population densities, distribution range and rate of offtake.

**Knowledge**  
**Experts**  
**Get Involved**



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