



© Wolfgang Kathe

NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX



Geographical range

www.iucnredlist.org
www.iucn.org/medicinalplant
 Help Save Species
www.arkive.org

Species of the Day: *Arnica montana*

Arnica montana, commonly referred to as Leopard's Bane, is listed as 'Least Concern' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This perennial herb is widespread in Europe, where it is found in extensively managed, acidic and nutrient-poor alpine meadows. *Arnica montana* flowers are widely used in traditional remedies, for which there is a growing international commercial market, to treat bruises and wounds.

Arnica montana populations are declining in some parts of Europe partly due to unsustainable levels of collection for use in medicines. Its habitat has been maintained in traditional, subsistence-based farming systems, but these are changing due to intensification (especially the addition of nitrogen fertilizers), over-grazing, abandonment, and reforestation. Currently, the largest demand for trade comes from Eastern Europe, the wild resources having been depleted in the main consumer countries – Germany, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Cultivation of *Arnica montana* has proved to be costly and complicated, and there is a strong market preference for wild-harvested material. The conservation focus is on protocols for non-destructive (sustainable) harvesting and preservation of traditional cultural landscapes. Population trends should be monitored.



Species of the Day
is sponsored by



The production of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is made possible through the IUCN Red List Partnership: IUCN (including the Species Survival Commission), BirdLife International, Conservation International, NatureServe and Zoological Society of London.