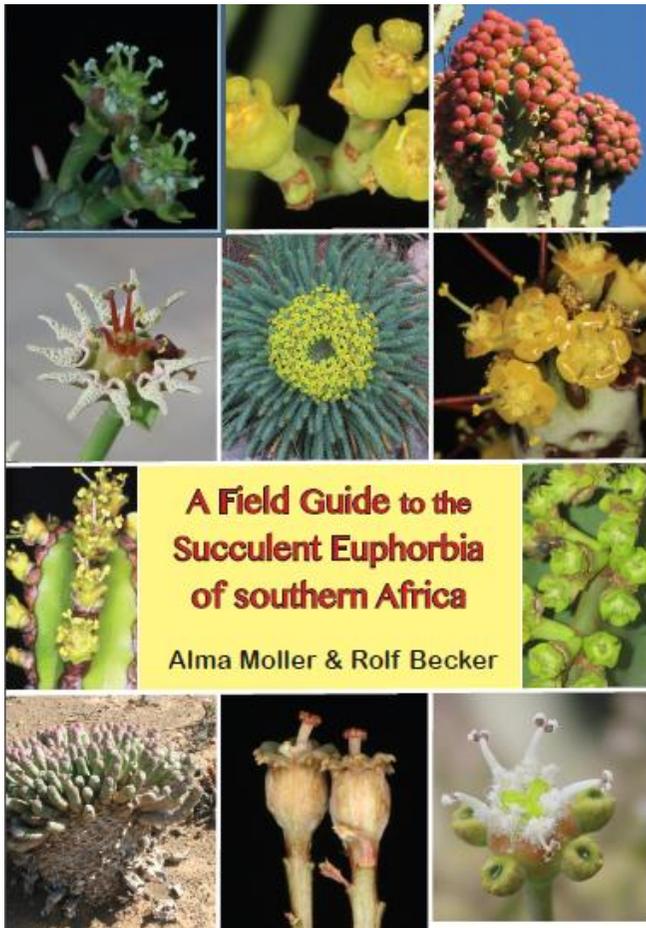


Can you identify a *Euphorbia* when you find one?



.... or are you not sure which one it is?

We want to help you, AND perhaps you can help us!

Alma Moller and Rolf Becker have written *A Field Guide to the Euphorbias of southern Africa*

This remarkable hard cover book of 480 pages with over 800 photographs includes 220 species occurring in the region south of the Kunene and Zambezi Rivers.

"Why do I like this book? Because they have produced an excellent volume full of useful and interesting information that anyone interested in botany and cultivating these unique plants will enjoy and find intriguing."

Eugene Moll, Extraordinary Professor in the Department of Biodiversity and Conservation Biology at the University of the Western Cape, Cape Town.

In this book Alma and Rolf celebrate the diversity of southern Africa's succulent *Euphorbia*. It is aimed at assisting the reader to distinguish between the widely differing growth forms of this most amazing genus of plants as you may encounter them in the region.



The book covers southern Africa, generally recognised as Africa south of the Kunene and Zambezi Rivers and therefore, includes the succulent *Euphorbia* species occurring in Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique south of the Zambezi River, Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho and South Africa.

Similar looking species are grouped together, based on recognisable morphological characteristics, as one would encounter them in nature. This should assist the reader to more easily locate them in the text and thus expedite their identification. In essence, the guide gives the person in the field the best possible opportunity to identify the *Euphorbia* they are confronted with, and makes it as easy as possible for them to do so. A very useful feature is the annotation of photographs to highlight characteristics typical of the species concerned. This is a very convenient tool to assist in the identification of troublesome taxa.

A typical page layout has been expertly designed by the publishers, Briza Books, as illustrated in the draft copy below. Additional characteristic photographs of the species under discussion will be incorporated on the adjoining page.

Euphorbia ingens – E. Meyer (1843) ex Boissier (1862)

Description:

Plant: up to 10 m high or rarely slightly higher; trunk branching and rebranching into broadly cone-shaped crown of straight, erect or ascending, sub-parallel branches; older branches do not fall off; flowering branches 4-angled constricted into segments 7.5 to 15 cm long; angles wing-like, 2 to 3 cm broad, scalloped or wavy margin.

Spine shields: separate, usually poorly developed, rust-colored.

Spines: absent or in reduced pairs, 0.5 to 2 mm long.

Inflorescence: cymes 3 (occasionally 2 to 5) from each flowering eye, peduncled, consisting of 3 cyathia vertically disposed, raised on very short cyme branches; glands touching, pale green.

Capsule: exserted on stout pedicel as long as involucre, round, bright red.



Group I



Similar species: hard to mistake in the region.

Notes: latex very toxic and causes severe irritation and blisters on the skin.

Habitat: mountain slopes or in open woodland.

Distribution: Gauteng, North West, Limpopo, Mpumalanga and Kwa-Zulu-Natal, Swaziland, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Very common throughout bushveld area.

Conservation status:
Red Data List: Least Concern.

Name derivation: *ingens* (L) "huge".

Common names:

Candelabra Tree, Candelabra Euphorbia, Common Tree Euphorbia, Tree Euphorbia, Cactus Euphorbia (E), Gewona naboom, Naboom, Noorsboom, Noorsheuring, Noorsdoringboom, Noorsdoring, Kanikerbos (A); Mhlohlogomo, Mokgotso (NS), Mhlohlo-kgomo, Mokgotso, Mokgoro (S); Umhlonde, Umhlonhlo, Umahetheni, Umphapha (Z); unihlonhlo (Sw), Nkondze, Nkonde (Tz) Mukonde, Ikonze, Ishupa, Umhlonde, Monkopô, Ngégo, Llanduandu (Other)

A Field Guide to the Succulent Euphorbias of southern Africa has been thoroughly researched and was motivated by the frustration that Alma and Rolf experienced when trying to identify the species they encountered during their extensive field work. The guide took more than 15 years to compile and is a treasure trove which includes *in situ* photographs of some of the rarest plants in southern Africa, for example *Euphorbia leistneri*, known from only one locality on the banks of Kunene River in Koakoland, Namibia and *Euphorbia clivicola* growing in the vicinity of Polokwane in the Limpopo Province of South Africa.



We would like this book to be published since it will be the only up to date comprehensive book of its kind and will provide a user friendly, one-stop, practical field guide to all known *Euphorbia* species of southern Africa. It is well researched and the authors have personally contributed most of the photographs, all of them taken in the field as they encountered the plants. In addition it contains a

unique collection of the beautiful cyathia (flowers) that distinguishes this genus of plants from all others.

It will be a resource enjoyed and valued by the entire spectrum of people interested in Nature.

The publication of this book will only be made possible through contributions from donors, sponsors and subscribers - all of whom will be acknowledged in the book.

We, therefore, need to raise funds to get this book published. Our aim is to raise at least R250,000 in order to print 2,000 copies of the book and be able to sell them at a reasonable price (~R400 for a hard cover volume of ~480 B4 sized pages, each with up to four colour photographs of a species and for some additional landscape photographs where the plants can be found).

This type of funding has been done very successfully before for many other educational books. In every case, hundreds of individuals have each played a part in enabling books of great heuristic value to be published and distributed.

Perhaps you will choose to help us to publish *A Field Guide to the Euphorbia of southern Africa!*

This brochure invites you to assist in getting the book published

* Our dream is that there are **10 Donors** each willing to donate at least R10,000 or more towards the costs of publication.

* Our dream is that there are **100 Sponsors**, each of whom is passionate about the environment and education and be prepared to each contribute R2,000 to ensure this *A Field Guide to the Succulent Euphorbia of southern Africa* gets published.

* Our dream is that there may be many **Subscribers** who would like to show support for this great project by pre-purchasing a book for R900.

What's in it for you & how will we acknowledge your help?

1. Each Donor's, Sponsor's and Subscriber's name will be listed in the front of the book (unless that person wishes to remain anonymous).
2. A Donor who gives R10,000 or more will receive a hard-covered copy of the book, with dust-jacket and signed by the authors. And if required their logo will be displayed in the book.
3. Any Sponsor who gives R2,000** or more will receive a signed, standard copy of the book.
4. Subscribers will pay R900** and receive a standard copy of the book.

All funds will be held by the Fauna & Flora Publication Trust Fund. Should insufficient funds be raised to publish this book all monies will be returned. We hope to publish this book by November 2018.

PLEASE NOTE: Any excess funds will be passed on to the Botanical Education Trust to assist young, aspiring taxonomists and/or horticulturalists to pursue their studies.

If you wish to be a Donor, Sponsor and/or Subscriber please complete the SPONSORSHIP FORM attached. Ideally no later than the end of July 2018 please.

Finally, if you would like any additional information regarding this book please do not hesitate to contact Eugene Moll on emoll@telkomsa.net .

**** Excludes packaging and delivery outside the borders of South Africa**