



## CARNIVOROUS PLANT SPECIALIST GROUP 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

*Prepared by Robert Cantley, Carnivorous Plant Specialist Group Chair & Dr. Charles Clarke RL Focal Point*

### CHAIR RLA CO-ORDINATOR & PATRON

Chair: Robert Cantley

RLA Coordinator (RL Focal Point): Dr. Charles Clarke

Patron: Sir David Attenborough

### LOCATION

We are based in Colombo, Sri Lanka and are not currently affiliated with any institution, company or organization.

### MEMBERSHIP

We currently have a general membership of 112 with 7 actively engaged Specialist Members.

### MISSION STATEMENT

"To help ensure that the conservation status of all carnivorous plants are adequately and accurately documented and assist in raising of public awareness and encourage initiation of appropriate conservation measures."

### KEY OBJECTIVES

To ensure that the IUCN Red List for all carnivorous plants is updated as quickly as possible, commencing with those taxa that are currently Data Deficient and which have been identified by experts within the Carnivorous Plant Specialist Group (CPSG) as being most likely in need of conservation initiatives.

## SUMMARY OF MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN 2014

### 1. RECRUITMENT OF MEMBERSHIP & ONLINE PRESENCE

The website at [www.iucn-org](http://www.iucn-org) went live in August 2014, in time for presentations given by Robert Cantley at the International Carnivorous Plant Society (ICPS) conference in Cairns Australia and at the European Carnivorous Plant Exhibition (EEE) in Padua, Italy. Both these fora contained many of the world's top experts, covering all genera of carnivorous plants. The focus of the presentations were to explain the current function and future goals of the CPSG and to build up to an appeal for expert volunteers to assist in many aspects of the CPSG. These range from further website development, to instigation and maintenance of social media and in particular to recruitment of a Specialist or sometimes two, for each genus of carnivorous plant. The primary role of these Specialists is to collect and collate pre-assessment data from other sometimes less qualified volunteers, before passing this data to our Red List Focal Point to prepare the assessments. In some cases the Specialist will assist with future conservation measures that may be undertaken.

We were successful in recruiting the required number of Specialist volunteers and have already appointed, or are in the process of appointing, Specialists for each genus.

### 2. COMPLETION OF RED LIST ASSESSMENTS OF 60 TAXA OF THE GENUS *NEPENTHES*

There are approximately 150 validly described species of *Nepenthes* of which 28 were assessed by the CPSG ready for inclusion in the IUCN Red List in 2013. Thanks to essential and generous external funding from the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, in 2013 and 2014 detailed field surveys were carried out by volunteer Specialists, many in very remote or nearly inaccessible locations. This enabled a further 60 *Nepenthes* species to be reliably assessed in 2014, reviewed and made ready for publication in the IUCN Red List. Thus the total of *Nepenthes* species assessed by the CPSG since 2012 is now 88. In addition, a further 8 newly described *Nepenthes* species were assessed as 'Data Deficient'. These species were originally described only on the basis of a small number of herbarium specimens and have yet to be surveyed in habitat.

***Nepenthes* species assessed for the IUCN Red List in 2014.**

No.	Species	Red Category	List	No.	Species	Red Category	List
1	<i>alata</i>	LC		31	<i>lavicola</i>	EN	
2	<i>albomarginata</i>	LC		32	<i>longifolia</i>	LC	
3	<i>ampullaria</i>	LC		33	<i>lowii</i>	VU	
4	<i>andamana</i>	EN		34	<i>macrovulgaris</i>	LC	
5	<i>angasanensis</i>	LC		35	<i>madagascariensis</i>	LC	
6	<i>argentei</i>	VU		36	<i>mapuluensis</i>	EN	
7	<i>bicalcarata</i>	EN		37	<i>mikei</i>	VU	
8	<i>bongso</i>	LC		38	<i>muluensis</i>	LC	
9	<i>boschiana</i>	VU		39	<i>murudensis</i>	LC	
10	<i>burbidgeae</i>	EN		40	<i>neoguineensis</i>	LC	
11	<i>danseri</i>	LC		41	<i>northiana</i>	LC	
12	<i>densiflora</i>	LC		42	<i>ovata</i>	LC	
13	<i>diatas</i>	LC		43	<i>pervillei</i>	LC	
14	<i>dubia</i>	VU		44	<i>rafflesiana</i>	LC	
15	<i>edwardsiana</i>	LC		45	<i>rajah</i>	VU	
16	<i>ephippiata</i>	LC		46	<i>ramispina</i>	EN	
17	<i>eustachya</i>	LC		47	<i>reinwardtiana</i>	LC	
18	<i>faizaliana</i>	LC		48	<i>rhombicaulis</i>	LC	
19	<i>flava</i>	VU		49	<i>sanguinea</i>	LC	
20	<i>graciliflora</i>	LC		50	<i>singalana</i>	LC	
21	<i>gracilis</i>	LC		51	<i>spathulata</i>	LC	
22	<i>gymnamphora</i>	LC		52	<i>spectabilis</i>	VU	
23	<i>hirsuta</i>	LC		53	<i>stenophylla</i>	LC	
24	<i>hispida</i>	LC		54	<i>talangensis</i>	CR	
25	<i>hurrelliana</i>	LC		55	<i>tentaculata</i>	LC	
26	<i>inermis</i>	LC		56	<i>tobaica</i>	LC	
27	<i>insignis</i>	LC		57	<i>veitchii</i>	LC	
28	<i>izumiae</i>	LC		58	<i>ventricosa</i>	LC	
29	<i>jacquelineae</i>	LC		59	<i>villosa</i>	LC	
30	<i>kerrii</i>	LC		60	<i>vogelii</i>	LC	

Of the 60 newly assessed species, only one was considered to be 'Critically Endangered' (*N. talangensis*), six were considered to be 'Endangered', eight were assessed as 'Vulnerable', while the remainder (45 species) were assessed as 'Least Concern'.

### 3. COMMENCEMENT OF RED LIST ASSESSMENTS FOR GENERA OF CARNIVOROUS PLANTS OTHER THAN *NEPENTHES*

The genus *Drosera* (common name: Sundews) is one of the largest groups of carnivorous plants, yet no species have been formally assessed for the IUCN Red List in the past. As we have now made steady progress in our primary task – the assessment of *Nepenthes* species – in 2014 we were able to turn our attention to the commencement of assessments of *Drosera* species. To this end in 2014, Dr. Adam Cross has drafted assessments for a number of *Drosera* species from Southwest Australia (the centre of diversity for this genus).

#### OBJECTIVES FOR 2015

- Continue to increase membership and public awareness through social media.
- Initiate a periodic newsletter.
- Seek affiliation with appropriate institution(s) with a view to instigating *ex-situ* conservation measures, to help prevent extinction of certain species that are assessed as 'Critically Endangered' and where *in-situ* conservation efforts are judged likely to be unsuccessful.
- Encourage and assist in ongoing conservation work currently undertaken by other organizations or individuals.
- Prepare Red List Assessments on a minimum of another 20 *Nepenthes* species.
- Prepare Red List Assessments on a minimum of 30 *Drosera* species.
- Commence Red List Assessments on all remaining genera of carnivorous plants.

#### THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

IUCN Red List assessments of most carnivorous plant species requires either field surveys, or considerable administrative effort in order to collate sufficient detailed information from disparate sources. Our achievements in 2014 were only possible thanks to the generosity of the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, to whom we are extremely grateful.



*Nepenthes talangensis* – critically endangered

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