

# BIO-HAZARD

## Bryophyllum delagoense

*Bryophyllum delagoense* (Chandelier plant), a native of Madagascar, is a widespread weed throughout the Tropics and Sub-tropics. In the KNP it is found in most restcamps and villages and has already spread into the veld at a number of localities.

### Identification

#### Description:

An erect succulent herb of up to 1.2m in height. Reproduces rapidly through vegetative offsets at the leaf tips and from seed.

#### Leaves:

The leaves are cylindrical and occur in whorls of three or alternate on older plants. Grey green in colour with darker green to reddish spots. Plantlets occur on the leaf tips.

#### Flowers:

The flowers are tubular in shape and are approximately 30 - 40mm long. They occur in terminal clusters and are of a pale orange to deep magenta colour.

#### Fruits:

Follicles with numerous seeds 1 - 2mm long.



Figure 1: *Bryophyllum delagoense* plants



Figure 2: *Bryophyllum delagoense* flowers (left) and growth form (right)

### Damage

*B. delagoense* survives in most environmental conditions, thriving particularly in hot and dry conditions. It is **highly invasive** and forms thick mats/stands and replaces indigenous vegetation.

### Control

Uprooting and spraying are the two methods currently used for the control of this plant however biological control is under investigation.

### Contact address

Please report any sightings of *Bryophyllum delagoense* in and adjacent to the Kruger National Park to:

Alien Biota Section  
Private Bag X402  
Skukuza  
1350

Tel: (013) 735 4114 Fax: (013) 735 4055

E-mail: [aliens@parks-sa.co.za](mailto:aliens@parks-sa.co.za)

