



Baseball plant



Plant Botanical Name:

Euphorbia obesa

USBG Plant Location:

Conservatory

Conservatory Room Location:

World Deserts

Plant Threat Level:

Endangered

Also known as the baseball plant, *Euphorbia obesa* is found only in the Great Karoo region of South Africa. Unsustainable harvesting by collectors and plant exporters almost resulted in the plant becoming extinct. As a result, national and international legislation have been enacted to protect the remaining populations. While *Euphorbia obesa* remains endangered in its native habitat, it has become very common in cultivation. By growing large numbers of this plant, nurseries and botanical gardens have been working to ensure that specimens being traded and sold among plant collectors are not obtained from the wild, thus protecting it for posterity.

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