

Thunbergia sp. nov. 'kimboza'?

Acanthaceae

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Status global: **Restricted (ce)** Status local: **Rare**

Thought to be an as yet undescribed endemic sub-shrub. Reported to occur inside Kimboza and in forest remnants nearby.

Striking identification features

- opposite, simple with toothed margins
- showy purplish/yellow flowers



Description

Stature: sub-shrub with arching stems.

Size: to about half a meter tall.

Bark:

Leaves: opposite, simple with toothed margins.

Flower: many flowered inflorescences in leaf axil, the large showy flowers are purplish-yellow.

Fruit: not known.

Seed: not known.



Status and distribution: This is thought to be an undescribed species and was identified by Q. Luke. This specimen was collected in the Kimboza-Ruvu region about 3 km NE of Kimboza in December 2022.

Habitat requirements: The plant was found in rock outcrop that has not been affected by deforestation and repeated fires. The site also harbours other notable species such as *Cola quentinii* and the endangered *Isolona linearis*, recorded for the first time in the Uluguru mountains.

Phenology: Flowered in December 2022.

Reproduction:

Uses in East Africa: None are known.

Local uses: None are known.

Sources and further information

Botanical description:

Herbarium specimens:

Binggeli *et al.* (NHS), 2022-12-07, fl

