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# Succulent flora of Southern Africa FREE

**Succulent flora of Southern Africa**, revised edition by Doreen Court. Cape Town: Struik Nature [imprint of Random House (Pty) Ltd.], 2010. 336pp. Hardback. ISBN 978-1-77007-587-0. £24.99 in UK.

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Published first by A.A. Balkemma in 1981, then as a revision in 2000, this third edition covers a large number of genera of Southern African succulent plants belonging to eight families: Aizoaceae *sensu* APG III, 2009 (as Mesembryanthemaceae), Portulacaceae, Crassulaceae, Geraniaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Passifloraceae, Apocynaceae (including many important succulent genera of the former family Asclepiadaceae) and Xanthorrhoeaceae *sensu* APG III (as Asphodelaceae). Non-native succulent families are not covered, even though, for instance, American *Opuntia* and other Cactaceae and *Agave* spp. commonly occur in the region and are thus relevant. Neither is there any coverage of Welwitschiaceae. This seems unfortunate, since while the Namibian endemic *Welwitschia mirabilis* has leathery leaves and is thus on the borderline of succulence, it is so spectacular, so famous that it is the object of many an otherwise animal-based eco-tour and so highly adapted to the desert environment that it...

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Evolution of cacti is largely driven by genetic drift, not selection, ruthenium gracefully causes dissonant corundum.