

## Genus *Crassula* – the sections according to Tölken and IHSP

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### Section I *Helophytum* (Eckl. & Zeyh.) Tölken

**Type species:** *C. natans* (Thunb.) Ekl. & Zeyh.

Mostly annual plants, often aquatic plants.

Distribution : Very common in South Africa but also worldwide in temperate to tropical climate.

#### **Species :**

*Crassula aphylla*  
*Crassula aquatica*  
*Crassula drummondii*  
*Crassula elatinoides*  
*Crassula gemmifera*  
*Crassula granvikii*  
*Crassula hedbergii*  
*Crassula helmsii*  
*Crassula inanis*  
*Crassula kirkii*  
*Crassula longipes*  
*Crassula manaia*  
*Crassula mataikona*  
*Crassula minutissima*  
*Crassula moschata*  
*Crassula multicaulis*  
*Crassula natans* (var. *minus*, var. *natans* )

Crassula peduncularis  
Crassula ruamahanga  
Crassula saginoides  
Crassula sinclairii  
Crassula solieri  
Crassula tuberella  
Crassula vaillantii  
Crassula venezuelensis  
Crassula viridis

## Section II Glomeratae Haw.

**Type species** : *C. glomerata* Berg.

Mostly annual plants, few perennial.  
Distribution : Africa, India, Australia.

### Species

Crassula alata (ssp. alata, ssp. pharnaceoides)  
Crassula basaltica  
Crassula bergioides  
Crassula campestris  
Crassula closiana  
Crassula colorata (var. acuminata, var. colorata, var. miriamiae)  
Crassula connata  
Crassula decumbens (var. brachyphylla, var. decumbens)  
Crassula dodii  
Crassula exserta  
Crassula glomerata  
Crassula hirsuta  
Crassula humbertii  
Crassula hunua  
Crassula lanceolata (ssp. denticulata, ssp. lanceolata, ssp. transvaalensis)  
Crassula minuta  
Crassula muscosa (var. muscosa, var. obtusifolia, var. parvula, var. polpodacea)  
Crassula numaisensis  
Crassula oblanceolata  
Crassula pageae  
Crassula phascoides  
Crassula rhodesica  
Crassula roggeveldii  
Crassula schimperi (ssp. phyturus, ssp. schimperi)  
Crassula sieberiana (ssp. rubinea, ssp. sieberiana, ssp. tetramera)  
Crassula strigosa  
Crassula tenuipedicellata  
Crassula thunbergiana (ssp. minutiflora, ssp. thunbergiana)  
Crassula tillaea  
Crassula umbellata

### **Section III Dinacria (Harv.) Schönl.**

**Type species** : *C. filiformis* (Eckl. & Zeyh.) Harv.

Annual plants.

Distribution : N and W Eastern Cape.

**Species :**

*Crassula depressa*

*Crassula dichotoma*

*Crassula filiformis*

*Crassula grammanthoides*

*Crassula sebaeoides*

### **Section IV Filipedes (Harv.) Schönl.**

**Type species** : *C. expansa* Dryand.

Perennial plants, flowers solitary and borne in the leaf axils or in terminal clusters.

Distribution : Tropical Africa to Western Cape and Madagascar.

**Species :**

*Crassula expansa* (ssp. *expansa*, ssp. *filicaulis*, ssp. *fragilis*, ssp. *pyrifolia*)

*Crassula papillosa*

*Crassula peculiaris*

*Crassula tenuicaulis*

*Crassula volkensis* (ssp. *coleae*, ssp. *volkensis*)

### **Section V Deltoideae DC**

**Type species** : *C. deltoidea* Thunb.

Perennial plants with fleshy deltoid leaves covered with papillae, flowers urceolate.

Distribution : From southern Namibia and Free State to Northern Cape and Western Cape.

**Species :**

*Crassula corallina* (ssp. *corallina*, ssp. *macrorrhiza*)

*Crassula deltoidea*

*Crassula elsieae*

*Crassula vestita*

### **Section VI Anacampseroideae Haw.**

**Type species** : *C. telephioides* Haw.

Mostly perennial plants, creeping to erect and with thick stems, flowers wide open, star-like.  
Distribution : S and E South Africa as well as south-western parts of the Cape region.

**Species :**

*Crassula alticola*  
*Crassula arborescens* (ssp. *arborescens*, ssp. *undulatifolia*)  
*Crassula cordata*  
*Crassula crenulata*  
*Crassula inandensis*  
*Crassula lactea*  
*Crassula multicava* (ssp. *floribunda*, ssp. *multicava*)  
*Crassula ovata*  
*Crassula pellucida* (ssp. *alsinoides*, ssp. *brachypetala*, ssp. *marginalis*, ssp. *pellucida*, ssp. *spongiosa*)  
*Crassula sarmentosa* (var. *integrifolia*, var. *sarmentosa*)  
*Crassula spathulata*  
*Crassula streyi*

## **Section VII Petrogeton (Eckl. & Zeyh.) Walp.**

**Type species** : *Petrogeton typicum* Eckl. & Zeyh.

Plants with underground tubers and star-like flowers.  
Distribution : Mainly in south-western Cape but also in eastern Cape Province and the Drakensberg.

**Species :**

*Crassula alcornis*  
*Crassula capensis* (var. *albertinae*, var. *capensis*, var. *promontorii*)  
*Crassula dentata*  
*Crassula nemorosa*  
*Crassula saxifraga*  
*Crassula simulans*  
*Crassula umbella*  
*Crassula umbraticola*

## **Section VIII Galpiniflora Tölken**

**Type species** : *C. galpinii* Schönl.

Only one species in this section – perennial, leaves rosulate, inflorescence axillary, flowers star-like.  
Distribution : Drakensberg mountains and occasionally in mountains south-east of it.

**Species :**

*Crassula peploides*

## **Section IX Acutifolia (Schonl.) Tölken**

**Type species :** *C. acutifolia* Lam.

Perennial plants, leaves fleshy, usually subulate and papillose, flowers tubular.

Distribution : Widespread throughout South Africa and into south-east tropical Africa.

**Species :**

*Crassula biplanata*

*Crassula ericoides* (ssp. *ericoides*, ssp. *torulosa*)

*Crassula dependens*

*Crassula planifolia*

*Crassula sarcocaulis* (ssp. *rupicola*, ssp. *sarcocaulis*)

*Crassula tetragona* ( ssp. *acutifolia*, ssp. *connivens*, ssp. *lignescens*, ssp. *robusta*, ssp. *rudis*, ssp. *tetragona*)

## **Section X Squamulosae Haw.**

**Type species :** *C. scabra* L.

Perennial plants with more or less woody stems, leaves usually with robust trichomes (hairs) and marginal cilia, inflorescence without distinct peduncle, flowers tubular and with dorsal appendage.

Distribution : Infrequent and widespread in south-western and north-western Cape.

**Species :**

*Crassula muricata*

*Crassula pallens*

*Crassula pruinosa*

*Crassula pustulata*

*Crassula rudolfii*

*Crassula scabra*

*Crassula whiteheadii*

## **Section XI Subulares Haw.**

**Type species :** *C. ramosa* Thunb.

Perennial plants with woody stems, leaves linear to oblong, glabrous but with marginal cilia, inflorescence a thyrse with an often indistinct peduncle, flowers tubular, petal tips usually recoiled, indistinct appendage.

Distribution : Widespread in winter rainfall area from near Port Elizabeth along southern and south-western Cape mountains to the Gifberg in the north.

**Species :**

Crassula ciliata  
Crassula cymosa  
Crassula lasiantha  
Crassula multiflora (ssp. leucantha, ssp. multiflora)  
Crassula subulata (var. fastigiata, var. hispida, var. subulata)

## Section XII Curtogyne (Haw.) Tölken

**Type species :** *C. undata* Haw.

Perennial plants with woody stems, leaves glabrous but with marginal cilia, inflorescence a thyrse with an often indistinct peduncle, flowers tubular, 5 – 9 mm long, petals membranous, acute and with appendage.

Distribution : Northern, Western and Eastern Cape.

**Species :**

Crassula dejecta  
Crassula fallax  
Crassula flava  
Crassula rubricaulis

## Section XIII Kalosanthes (Haw.) Tölken

**Type species :** *K. jasminea* (Sims) Haw.

Perennial plants with fleshy and more or less woody stems, leaves glabrous but with marginal cilia, dorsiventrally flattened; inflorescence a capitate thyrse with an often indistinct peduncle, flowers tubular, petals 20 – 60 mm long, apex spreading at right angle, with dorsal appendage.

Distribution : Mountainous areas of south-western Cape.

**Species :**

Crassula coccinea  
Crassula fascicularis  
Crassula obtusa

## **XIV Section Rosulares Haw.**

**Type species** : *C. rosularis* Haw.

Largest section of the genus. Mostly perennial plants, stems short or none, but elongating when flowering, leaves in basal rosettes which often offset, leaves flat and acute, glabrous to densely hairy, margins often with recurved cilia. Inflorescence a thyrse, rarely with a distinct peduncle, mostly the vegetative branch is grading into the inflorescence with the leaves gradually getting shorter below the inflorescence. Flowers tubular, petals papillose and with distinct appendage.

Distribution : Widespread in southern Africa, particularly in south-eastern Cape region.

**Species** :

*Crassula acinaciformis*  
*Crassula alba* (var. *alba*, var. *pallida*, var. *parvisepala*)  
*Crassula barbata* (ssp. *barbata*, ssp. *broomii*)  
*Crassula brachystachya*  
*Crassula capitella* (ssp. *capitella*, ssp. *nodulosa*, ssp. *sessilicymula*, ssp. *meyeri*, ssp. *thyrsiflora*)  
*Crassula compacta*  
*Crassula cremnophila*  
*Crassula cymbiformis*  
*Crassula exilis* (ssp. *cooperi*, ssp. *exilis*, ssp. *sedifolia*)  
*Crassula flanaganii*  
*Crassula hemisphaerica*  
*Crassula intermedia*  
*Crassula luederitzii*  
*Crassula montana* (ssp. *montana*, ssp. *quadrangularis*)  
*Crassula natalensis*  
*Crassula obovata* (var. *dregeana*, var. *obovata*)  
*Crassula orbicularis*  
*Crassula pseudohemisphaerica*  
*Crassula sediflora* (var. *amatolica*, var. *sediflora*)  
*Crassula setulosa* (var. *deminuta*, var. *jenkinsii*, var. *longiciliata*, var. *rubra*, var. *setulosa*)  
*Crassula smithii* (ALOE 45 :4 :2008)  
*Crassula socialis*  
*Crassula southii* (ssp. *southii*, ssp. *sphaerocephala*)  
*Crassula tabularis*  
*Crassula tomentosa* (var. *glabrifolia*, var. *tomentosa*)  
*Crassula vaginata* (ssp. *minuta*, ssp. *vaginata*)

## **Section XV Perfilatae Haw. ex DC.**

**Type species** : *C. perfossa* Lam.

Perennial plants with slightly woody stems, leaves robust, partly fused at base, young leaves with marginal cilia. Inflorescence with a distinct peduncle, petals more or less papillose and often with dorsal appendage.

Distribution : South Namibia, Northern, Western and Eastern Cape.

## Species

Crassula badspoortensis  
Crassula brevifolia (ssp. brevifolia, ssp. pasmmophila)  
Crassula fusca  
Crassula macowaniana  
Crassula perforata (ssp. kougaensis – ALOE 46:1:2009)  
Crassula rupestris (ssp. commutata, ssp. marnieriana, ssp. rupestris)  
Crassula sladenii

## Section XVI Columnares Haw. ex DC.

**Type species** : *C. columnaris* Thunb.

Perennial or biennial plants, stems scarcely woody, leaves more or less adpressed to the stems; leaves rarely without marginal cilia, partly fused at base; inflorescence without peduncle, a thyrse with a head-like cluster of flowers; petals narrowly oblong canaliculate, apex rounded or hooded.

Distribution : Mainly in winter rainfall areas of the Succulent Karoo in Northern and Eastern Cape.

## Species

Crassula alpestris (ssp. alpestris, ssp. massonii)  
Crassula barklyi  
Crassula columnaris (ssp. columnaris, ssp. prolifera)  
Crassula congesta (ssp. congesta, ssp. laticephala)  
Crassula multiceps  
Crassula pyramidalis

## Section XVII Argyrophylla (Schonl.) Toelken

**Type species** : *C. argyrophylla* Diels ex Schonl.

Perennial plants with short erect branches, rarely longer than 20 cm, often with woody base, usually covered with hairs or papillae as are also the leaves, which are partly fused at base. Inflorescence an elongated thyrse with one to several dichasia, with or without a peduncle. Sepals densely hairy; flowers tubular, with or without appendage.

Distribution : Common in Namaqualand and adjoining areas but also in the eastern Cape Province.

## Species :

Crassula alstonii  
Crassula aurusbergensis  
Crassula ausensis ( ssp. ausensis, ssp. giessii, ssp. titanopsis)  
Crassula decidua  
Crassula garibina (ssp. garibina, ssp. glabra)  
Crassula globularioides (ssp. globularioides, ssp. illichiana )  
Crassula hirtipes  
Crassula lanuginosa (var. lanuginosa, var. pachystemon)



Crassula leachii  
Crassula mesembrianthemopsis  
Crassula morrumbalensis  
Crassula namaquensis (ssp. comptonii, ssp. lutea, ssp. namaquensis)  
Crassula sericea (var. sericea, var. hottentotta, var. velutina)  
Crassula susannae  
Crassula swaziensis  
Crassula tecta  
Crassula zombensis

## Section XVIII Arta (Schonl.) Toelken

**Type species** : *C. arta* Schonl.

Perennial plants with short spreading branches rarely longer than 15 cm, glabrous, hairy or covered with papillae as are also the leaves which are partly fused at base, flat above but very convex below. Inflorescences usually a round-topped thyse more or less divided into dense dichasia at the end of the branches, with peduncles 3-15 cm long. Flowers tubular, petals only 3 mm long, recurved at apex, with dorsal appendage.

Distribution : Southern Namib desert and Northern and Western Cape.

**Species** :

Crassula columella  
Crassula deceptor  
Crassula elegans (ssp. elegans, ssp. namibensis)  
Crassula grisea  
Crassula marchandii  
Crassula plegmatoides

## Section XIX Crassula Toelken.

**Type species** : *C. perfoliata* L.

Perennial plants with erect branches up to 1,5 m tall, robust, woody, covered with coarse rounded papillae as are also the leaves which often are falcate, partly fused at base. Inflorescence a thyse, peduncle distinct, flowers arranged in dichasia. Sepals covered with spreading hairs and with marginal cilia. Flowers tubular, with dorsal appendages.

Distribution : Widespread from south-eastern Cape region to south-eastern tropical Africa.

**Species** :

*Crassula perfoliata* (var. *coccinea*, var. *heterotricha*, var. *falcata*, var. *minor*, var. *perfoliata*)

## Crassula XX Globulea (Haw.) Harv.

**Type species** : *C. cultrata* L.

Perennial plants, stems often woody, erect or decumbent, up to 60 cm long, or very short and with a basal rosette and a fleshy stem; leaves often falcate, partial fusion of the base. Inflorescence a rounded thyrse with several dichasia, peduncle 3 – 40 cm long. Sepals often hairy and with marginal cilia, corolla tubular to urceolate, almost not opened, with pronounced dorsal appendages.

Distribution : Widespread in Northern, Western and Eastern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal and South Namibia.

**Species :**

*Crassula ammophila*

*Crassula atropurpurea* (var. *anomala*, var. *atropurpurea*, var. *cultriformis*, var. *purcellii*, var. *rubella*, var. *watermeyeri*)

*Crassula clavata*

*Crassula cotyledonis*

*Crassula cultrata*

*Crassula lactibracteata*

*Crassula mesembryanthoides* (ssp. *hispida*, ssp. *mesembryanthoides*)

*Crassula mollis*

*Crassula nudicaulis* (var. *herrei*, var. *nudicaulis*, var. *platyphylla*)

*Crassula pubescens* (ssp. *pubescens*, ssp. *radicans*, ssp. *rattrayi*)

*Crassula rogersii*

*Crassula subacaulis* (ssp. *erosula*, ssp. *subacaulis*)

*Crassula subaphylla* (var. *subaphylla*, var. *virgata*)